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SPECIAL EXTRA

VOL. LVIII. NO.—18,378. DUBLIN, SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1916. PRICE ONE PENNY.

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IRISH HEROES.—A large number of Photographs of Irish Officers and Men officially reported killed, wounded and missing, appear in the "Weekly Irish Times" to-day.

COALS.
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NAVAL RECRUITING.

MEN ATTESTED FOR ARMY MAY TRANSFER.

LIST OF RATINGS OPEN.

As some misapprehension has arisen as regards the position of the Naval Service in relation to recruiting, the Admiralty announces, through the Press Bureau, that recruiting for most branches of the Naval Service is still open.

In order that provision may be made for the future requirements of the Fleet, it is desired that a larger number of candidates should offer themselves for the Navy groups. It has already been explained in the Press that there are four Navy groups, two for single and two for married men. Men offering themselves for the Navy groups are enrolled in the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve (Section Y) in the rating for which they are found qualified. They may, at the time of enrolment, state when they will be available to come up for actual service at a fortnight's notice, at some time during the next eight months. Their wishes are noted on their papers and, although it is not guaranteed that these wishes can be adhered to exactly, they will be considered so far as the needs of the Naval Service admit. Men who respect no wish are placed in their relative groups.

RATINGS OPEN.

Seamen, stokers, engine-room artificers, electrical artificers, and shipwrights, besides other ratings, are required for the Royal Navy, and men with experience of internal combustion engines for the Royal Naval Air Service and Motor Boat Reserve. Candidates for these ratings can be enrolled in the Navy groups for deferred service in the Navy, but men who prefer to enter for immediate service will also be considered.

It should be clearly understood that men already attested in Army Reserve Class B, and transferred to their Army groups, who prefer Naval service are free to offer themselves at any time until they are actually serving in the Army, either for immediate service in the Navy, or for enrolment in a Navy group for deferred service in the Navy, and that on being accepted for Naval service they will be released from the Army Reserve.

Intending candidates should consult the nearest Naval, Marine, or Coast Guard recruiter. The addresses of Naval and Marine recruiters can be obtained at any Labour Exchange, where also particulars of physical standards can be supplied.

THE WAR WEEK BY WEEK.

A CRITICAL REVIEW.

(I.)

THE FALL OF ERZERUM.

The new campaigning season has opened brilliantly with the Russian capture of the great Armenian fortress of Erzerum. We use the expression "the new campaigning season" generically, for the astonishing feature of this achievement is that this is a season of the year when even competent military opinion in Petrograd regarded any extension of the active operations which recently drove the Turkish centre back upon the fortress as hopelessly impracticable. That a ring-fortress of the type of Erzerum should fall is not in itself surprising; the event conforms to the experience of Liège, Namur, Antwerp, Przemysl, and the other fortresses which were supposed to be impregnable before this war introduced the great siege howitzer. Once a breach is effected in the girdle of forts the result is a foregone conclusion. One of the forts fell on Monday, another on Tuesday, and on Wednesday the capture of seven of the remaining twelve in the eastern zone of defence resulted in the occupation of the town. But that the Russians should have succeeded so quickly after the victory in the middle of January in bringing up their siege guns to effect the breach is a superb feat of endurance and organisation. Erzerum is over a hundred miles from the Russian rail-head on the other side of the Caucasus frontier. The intervening country is one of the coldest of the inhabited regions of the world—for days together temperatures of 40 or 50 degrees below freezing point were recorded—and it is exceedingly difficult, being a tangled mass of mountains, with only one practicable road, and that rising steeply to the plateau of Erzerum over 6,000 feet above sea-level. This character of the country has to be taken prominently into account in estimating the results of the Russian stroke. Erzerum was not only the most strongly defended strategic position in Asiatic Turkey; it was the only *depôt* of any size for the whole Turkish Army operating in all the inhospitable region between the Black Sea and the Persian frontier. Its loss not only breaks, but disintegrates, the defence. The Turkish losses are estimated at more than a hundred thousand, and, even if reinforcements were rapidly available—the nearest Turkish rail-head is more than two hundred miles away—the country to the south and south-west of Erzerum is so poor and barren that, though there are natural positions which might be held, the communications with Constantinople are so execrable and these defensive points are so exposed that no serious defence can be organised for a considerable time to oppose the Russian advance. The direction of that advance is already indicated. It is not likely to be pressed further west than is necessary to complete the rout of the Turks, for no military objective lies in this direction. It will be directed north upon Trebizond, the possession of which good port will be valuable as providing the Russians with a short and secure alternative line of communications by sea. But we may expect that, as soon as the Turkish right wing, which still holds out precariously in the region of Lake Van, is thrown back, as it must be in the absence of any support, the main weight of the Russian advance will be turned south-westwards. The great Taurus range interposes between Armenia and the valley of the Tigris, but with Erzerum in their hands the Russians are in possession of practicable roads for crossing the mountains. Along the Tigris valley runs the trace of the Bagdad railway, which is still incomplete, and along this route alone can proceed the Turkish reinforcements for the Mesopotamian front. The fall of Erzerum very seriously menaces the security of this line of communications. It is not likely that forces at present on the Mesopotamian front will be diverted to the Armenian front. For one thing, the enemy, having just lost one important town, are not likely to decide that the national cause can best be served by losing a second; and, for another, reinforcements can reach the Armenian front more easily from the west than from the south. But the Turks must be chary of embarking any additional large forces down the line of communications to Bagdad when the Russian stroke has brought the cutting of those communications behind them within the bounds of practical strategy. The fall of Erzerum, while it will certainly make more desperate, will make enormously more difficult the defence of Bagdad. The enemy's debâcle must also mean the incontinent collapse of the German-Turkish designs in Persia. The Russians have transformed at a stroke the whole outlook of the strategic situation in Asia.

(II.)

SALONIKA.

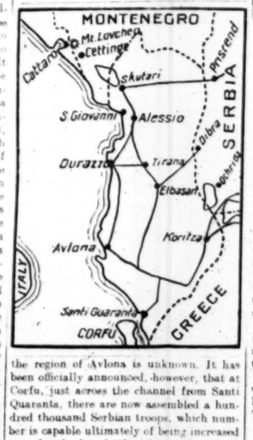
The fall of Erzerum is likely to have wider repercussions. It may be taken for granted, in the first place, that the necessity of attempting to restore some kind of defence of their eastern Asiatic territories will make out of the question for the Turks any adventure against Egypt; and also leaves British forces which have been held there by the threat of such an attempt will now be available for operations elsewhere. In the next place, the fall of Erzerum is likely to have an important influence on the Balkan situation. Though there never has been any trustworthy evidence that Turkish forces were intended to take part in the often advertised, but as often "postponed," assault on Salonika, it is clear that they have been utilised, by undertaking garrison duty on the Ægean and Black Sea littorals, to set free Bulgarian forces from active operations in Macedonia and Albania. The relations

between the Turks, on the one hand, and the Germans and the Bulgarians on the other, never too good, will scarcely be improved by recent events, and it is highly improbable that the Turks will be content to permit forces to be locked up in a region and for purposes in which they have no direct interest, when these forces are urgently required on their eastern front. The fall of Erzerum may, therefore, safely be taken as resulting in a certain reduction in the total of enemy forces available in the Balkans. This circumstance makes it all but certain that the projected attack on Salonika, doubtful enough before, will not now be attempted at all. On the other hand, there is considerable activity on the side of the Allies, which may foreshadow offensive intentions on their part. The strength of the Allies behind the lines covering the entrenched camp of Salonika is rapidly increasing. They have thrown out forces beyond their lines of defence westward across the Vardar to Verria and Yenitsa, on the railway which runs from Salonika to Monastir. Since the defensive lines would gain no strength by an extension in this direction, this movement is only to be interpreted as indicating an intention to test the strength of the enemy's front in Western Macedonia. It has the appearance, at least, of being designed to constitute in the future the flank of an Allied advance northwards from Salonika up the Vardar valley, which carries the railway to Nish.

(III.)

ALBANIA.

The course of events in Albania will supply us with the clue whether such an advance from Salonika is contemplated in the early spring. An advance from Salonika would be seriously restricted by the nature of the country, which limits the movements of large bodies of troops to the Vardar valley. It is unlikely to be undertaken unless and until it can be supported by a simultaneous Allied movement from the Adriatic which could engage the enemy in the flank. At Avlona, held in strength by Italians, the Allies retain such a point of re-entry from the Adriatic. Its value has been suggested before in these notes. From Avlona, which has a good harbour, and from Santi Quaranta, which has a smaller, but still better, harbour, the most practicable roads in Albania run north-east across the country, emerging into Serbia in the neighbourhood of Ochrida and Monastir. The strength of the Italian forces in



the region of Avlona is unknown. It has been officially announced, however, that at Corfu, just across the channel from Santi Quaranta, there are now assembled a hundred thousand Serbian troops, which number is capable ultimately of being increased to a hundred and fifty thousand. It is possible, of course, that when the refitting of these forces is completed they will be transferred to Salonika; but it appears more probable that they will be employed in Albania. The tenacity with which the resistance of the Serbian elements at present in Albania, the Italian detachments co-operating with them, and the forces of Essad Pasha is being maintained north and north-east of Avlona towards Durazzo and Elbasan is not without its suggestiveness. It may imply an intention to keep the northern flank clear for a subsequent advance from Avlona. In any case, we shall do well to watch the progress of events in Albania in view of their relation to the prospects of a serious Allied offensive in the Balkans.

W.

COFFEE EXPORTS PROHIBITED.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
STOCKHOLM, FRIDAY.

The export of coffee from Sweden is prohibited, as from the 25th inst.

A RUNNING GAZETTEER.

PLACES MENTIONED IN THE WEEK'S NEWS.

Alessio.—Alessio, which the Austrians claim to have captured, lies far from the madding crowd of globe-trotters, and seems ignored by most writers on the topography of Albania, but is a town of some historic interest, and has associations with at least four "supermen." This forgotten little port near the mouth of the River Drin is ancient Lissus. It was founded by Dionysius, the first Tyrant of Syracuse, who patronised Plato and tried to be a poet; captured by Philip of Macedon; populated with Roman colonists by Julius Cæsar; and is the burial-place of Scanderbeg, the mediæval Albanian patriot, who defeated the Turks in 22 battles, and became the hero of many legends.

Comines.—The name of Comines, now prominent in the news from the British front, is borne by places on both sides of the Lys. The one on the French side was the birthplace of the man who has made the name most familiar to the world—Philip de Comines or Commines, "the father of modern history." Most of us know our Louis XI. directly from "Quentin Durward," but it is to Philip of Comines that we really owe our knowledge of that repulsive character. He grappled with one question that modern historians would scarcely touch, elaborately balancing the tortures of the King's deathbed against his previous cruelties to others, and concluding, as Scott puts it, "that, after a reasonable quarantine in purgatory, he might in mercy be found duly qualified for the superior regions."

Dauletabad.—In Persia the Russians have occupied the town of Dauletabad. There are a dozen or more of this name in Persia, but the one in question here is that to the south of Hamadan. It commands the road southwards into Luristan. Its possession, together with that of Sultanabad, Nihavend, and Kengevar, secures the Russian hold upon the entire country south and east of Hamadan over a radius of some sixty to seventy miles.

Jaby.—At a recent meeting in Spain, presided over by Count Romanones, the Prime Minister, an ex-Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs asserted that it was necessary for Spain to annex the hitherto unappropriated African coast opposite the Canary Islands. He added that it was the last remaining place on the globe which belonged to no one, and that its annexation would remove a source of temptation that the Powers interested in the Mediterranean would be glad to see removed. It is the land behind Cape Juby, but apparently has no official name. Señor Hontaria did not dwell upon the history of this little district, left blank in the map of the rest of Africa as the enemy's front in Western Macedonia. It has the appearance, at least, of being designed to constitute in the future the flank of an Allied advance northwards from Salonika up the Vardar valley, which carries the railway to Nish.

Milan.—Rome and the Vatican and all Italy are shocked at the Austrian air vandals' outrage on the unique relic of early Byzantine Christianity, the church of Sant' Apollinare, at Ravenna. Now fresh but vain attempts on Bergamo, Brescia, and Monza, and even on Milan—whose position is 100 miles away from the main war zones, whose streets are full of sacred tradition, whose cathedral, with its "porch-pillars on the lion resting, and sombre, old, colonnaded aisles," is a shining monument of centuries of transitional architecture—give evidence enough that it is no "military necessity" but "frightfulness" which dictates the objectives of these attacks. It was Milan of which half a century ago Tennyson wrote the fine verse:—

O Milan, O the chanting quires,
The giant windows' Narni fires,
The height, the space, the gloom, the glory!
A moont of marble, a hundred spires!

It is Milan, of which to-day the *Corriere Della Sera* writes:—"The Town of the Five Days of 1848—when fierce riots against the Austrians took place—now opens a direct account with the ancient house of Hapsburg, and once again in this epilogue of our national resurrection it will do its duty with enthusiasm." Monza, one of the places visited, is sacred to Italians as the place of the tragic death of King Humbert.

Ravenna.—Lovers of Ravenna, hearing of the destruction wrought by air bombs upon Sant' Apollinare, were left by the first telegrams in doubt as to which of the two basilicas of that name had been damaged. There is not much consolation in learning that it is not Sant' Apollinare in Classe Fuori, but the earlier one of Sant' Apollinare Nuovo, within Ravenna. For the one within is even more famous than the one without. Ravenna is associated with Lord Byron, inasmuch as he wrote much of his "Don Juan" there. The city and its surrounding forest inspired one of the loveliest interludes in that great satiric medley—the passage beginning:

"Sweet hour of twilight! in the solitude
Of the pine forest and the silent shore
Which bounds Ravenna's immemorial wood,—

In 1821 Shelley found him in Ravenna, "im-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6.

STOCK EXCHANGE FINANCE.

WEEKLY NOTES.

IRELAND'S WAR PROSPERITY.

Fresh votes of war credits and the coming huge Loan arrangements for the same purpose have been up in the near future do not seem to have disturbed the equilibrium of Irish investors, who are really enjoying the time of their lives in their investments in the securities of their own country, which is just now enjoying very marked, earning and dividend prosperity out of war prices. The Funds are little altered, but with a slight tendency to realise when the opportunity arises, in preparation possibly for supporting heartily the coming new financial proposals of the Government. Home Railways have been supported steadily all the week, with scarcely any exception; but actual dealings have not been numerous, and fell off considerably towards the close of the week. Great Northern Ord. were bid up to 90½, a further rise of 1½, and Great Southern and Western, after being also 1½ higher at 90 bid, fell to 89½, and closed 89½. Railway Pref. Ord. Stocks maintain an unexpected degree of strength, with gains in prices. Stocks are admittedly comparatively low for ordinary times, but in view of the yield on Government securities the improved tendency rather took the market by surprise. The feature in Banks was the relapse of 5 points to 190 in Bank of Ireland Stock. Nationals and Royals are both a further ½ higher on the week. There has been a sharp rally of ¼ to 2¾ in Guinness Ord. Shares on fresh investment support and the absence of any large selling orders. Dublin Distillers were firm, with the Ord. and Debs. in chief request. Tramways maintain a firm tone, without any special feature. Fluctuations in prices are slightly irregular. Among Bakery Shares, Bolands Shares have rallied from recent depressed levels. Marconi Wireless Telegraph Shares closed firm at an advance, but slightly under the best price reached. Busy times and higher prices seem to be anticipated later on. Drapery Shares have been quite buoyant on the huge prosperity of the entire trade, and especially in the country districts, where the spending power of the community has grown hugely owing to the war prosperity all over Ireland. Textiles remain favourably disposed, the pleasant surprise of the Bradford Dyers accounts with the dividend doubled causing renewed confidence in the future. Buyers had difficulty in securing some of the E. and J. Burke issues, which is not surprising, seeing the recent depth of the slump caused by the war. The rise of 6s. to 40s. in H. Williams and Co. Shares was fully justified by the splendid financial and commercial position the concern now occupies as the result of conservative finance. Mr. Eugene McArdle, the managing director, deserves special commendation for the marked ability and success which has followed his far-seeing methods of management. The management of a company that has paid off one-half its capital—the whole of the Pref. at 10 p.c. prem.—out of reserved earnings in recent years, while paying a good dividend, that has now a reserve fund in excess of the entire capital, that has a balance forward more than equal to an entire year's earnings, and pays a 15 p.c. dividend, must be very exceptional, and the shareholders must indeed be a contented lot.

THE DRAPERY YEAR.

Leading drapery concerns balance each year on 31st January. On the present occasion accounts are being presented with between 12 and 13 months' profits, and, as shadowed in these weekly notes, great prosperity has been enjoyed. Never in the history of drapery companies have such abnormal results been shown. Some of the leading balance sheets are not yet available, but the dividend statements have been published, which bear out the conviction that Ireland as an agricultural country is huge prosperous. The bank reports show record additions to the already huge deposits; the railway receipts were also in excess of all former earnings, and now we have leading industrial and commercial reports declaring the same state of unexampled prosperity. South of Ireland drapery firms have done very well also. Cash and Co. earned £7,520, an increase of £554, and paid the usual 7 per cent. Dividend, while Lyons and Co. disclosed profits of £26,446, an increase of over £7,000, pay an increased dividend, and carry forward a much larger amount, after adding a record sum to reserves. In Dublin Clowe, Wilson and Co. profits of £6,087 were £583 larger, but subject to £400 more income tax. The dividend remains at 8½ p.c. on the Ordinary Shares. The Switzer accounts admit of an 8 p.c. distribution on the Ordinary Shares, against 7 per cent., while reserves are substantially strengthened. The Pim Brothers final dividend at the rate of 9 per cent. per annum brings the total for the year up to 7½ per cent., an increase of ½ per cent., while there is £5,000 for reduction of rebuilding fund and £1,583 carried forward. Cannocks, of Limerick, also report a good year's trading, but without increasing the satisfactory 9 per cent. dividend for the year. The glacier through the dividend statements and accounts, so far as yet issued, of the leading drapery concerns point unmistakably to the huge prosperity of the farming community throughout this agricultural country, for it is an open secret that the most prosperous part of the trade of nearly all the concerns has been the country end of the business.

J. C. PARKES AND SONS, LIMITED.

Hearty congratulations should be extended to the present Board of this concern for the splendid run of the fortunes that have followed their taking over the reins of control. Earnings are now back to the old standard of £8,000 or £9,000 a year. For last year they were £8,752, against only £5,302 in 1912, £4,742 in 1913, and £8,655 in 1914. The dividend on the Ord. Shares is raised for the past year to 6 per cent. from 5 per cent. last year, and nil in 1911, 1912, and 1913. In addition to this year's larger dividend the reserve, etc., and balance forward have been strengthened by over £2,000. The 5½ per cent. Pref. Shares in the hands of the investing public, while the Ord. Shares is held by the vendors or their friends. There is about £10,000 to credit of reserves and balance carried forward, which is a nice little nest-egg, but we have no doubt that the policy of the present management is steadily to build up resources from year to year, for in the 1914 accounts they also set aside over £2,000 to reserves, etc.

DUNLOP ISSUES.

There has been very steady support given to all Dunlop Shares during the week, with, perhaps, chief attention directed to Dunlop Rubber Ord. and Parent Tyre Def., owing to prospects which continue good for the entire industry. Higher market prices, it is believed, are only a matter of time.

THE LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE.

The markets of the London Stock Exchange began the week with a steady tone, but business was not of large dimensions. This steady tone continued throughout the week, but with the exception of the Rubber market there was no great improvement in the amount of business. Consols were inclined to droop at first, but a better tone prevailed towards the close of the week, and both Consols and the War Loan were firmer, the former at 55¾ and the latter at 97. Foreign Stocks have been quiet, but the French Loan was rather better on Friday. Japanese issues were all good. Enemy stocks were weaker on the continued fall in the value of the mark. Home Rails have been in shade better, but the changes marked are quite unimportant on the week. American Railways were very quiet during the week, advices from New York being anything but encouraging. A better tone prevailed, however, on Friday, and there was a recovery in several of the leading counters. Canadians also improved. Argentine Railways keep quiet and inactive. The Rubber Share market has been the best of the markets throughout, and owing to the steadiness in the price of the commodity, the prospects look quite hopeful. The Trust companies have been particularly in favour. Many small advances have been reported during the week. In Oil Shares the feature has been a recovery in Royal Dutch Shares to 49¾, while a number of other increases are recorded. Other miscellaneous shares have been quiet, but in the motor group Darracq hardened to 1¼. Catering issues have been good. In the Mining market prices have been generally lower, particularly Kaffirs. Copper Shares too, have been easier.

The weekly Bank return, issued on Thursday, again made an excellent showing. A further increase of £59,973 is marked in the reserve, over half a million of this gain being contributed by an increase in the stock of bullion, while the note circulation contracted by £299,810. The reserves now aggregate £40,704,002, against £40,628,707 at this time last year, while the stock of bullion stands at £45,819,752, against £35,546,972. Government disbursements during the week have considerably exceeded payments into Government account, public deposits showing a decline of over 11 millions. So far as market balances with the Bank are concerned, however, these Government distributions have been more than offset by big market repayments to the Bank, which have lowered other securities by more than 13½ millions. In the result other deposits account, representing market funds, is over 1½ millions lower. There has been a trifling three-figure gain in Government securities account. Reserve account is £76,960 less. The proportion of reserve to liabilities has risen 2·6 p.c. to 27 p.c.

LATEST OFFICIAL PRICES.

Government Funds.

	Minimum of latest prices.
Consols 2½ p.c. Red. on before 1 April, 1923	56½
2½ p.c. Annuities, Red. 1 Jan., 1903, or after	62
2½ p.c. Annuities, Red. 1 Jan. 1906, or after	57
War Loan 5½ p.c. Nov. 1929-47	97½
Do. 4½ p.c. Nov., 1929-45	97
Do. Notes, fully paid	97
Gt. Land 2½ p.c. Red. not before 1 April, 1924	66½
Guar. 2½ p.c. Irish Land Act 1903	65½
Do. 3 p.c. Irish Land Act 1903	74
Local Loans 2½ p.c. Red. after 1 April, 1912	78½
Treasury 5½ p.c. Nov. 1929-47	98½
India 2½ p.c. Red. on or after 1 Jan., 1931	62
Do. 3 p.c. Red. on or after 1 Jan., 1931	67½
Do. 3½ p.c. Red. 1948, or after	87

Corporation Stocks and Debentures.

	Latest price.
Belfast Corp. 3½ p.c. Red. 1955	84½
Do. 4 p.c. Red. 1915	97½
Do. Harbour 3½ p.c. Deb., Red. 1937	75
Bray Township 3½ p.c. Deb., Red. 1937	75
Cork 4 p.c. Red. 1922	90
Dublin Corp. 3½ p.c. Red. 1944	78½
Dublin Port and Docks 3½ p.c. Deb.	75
Do. Port and Docks 4 p.c. Deb.	90
Do. Port and Docks 4½ p.c. Deb., 1934	95
Do. Port and Docks Town Imp. 3½ p.c. Red.	75

Railway Ordinary Stocks.

Belfast and County Down	17½
Cork, Bandon, and South Coast	5½
Cork and Macroom Direct 4½ Shares	5½
Dublin and South-Eastern Coll. Ord.	3½
Great Northern (Ireland) Ord.	90½
Great Southern and West. (Ire.) Ord.	89½
Midland Great Western of Ire. Consol.	2½
Waterford and Tramore 4 p.c. Shares	3½

Railway Preference Stocks.

Belfast and Co. Down 4 p.c.	60
Cork, Bandon, and South Coast, West Cork 4 p.c.	50
Do. Kinsale 4 p.c.	40
Do. Bantry 4 p.c.	40
Cork and Macroom Direct 3 p.c. (£10 Shares)	7½
Dublin and South-Eastern Coll. 4 p.c.	6½
Great Northern (Ireland) 5 p.c. Red.	120
Great Southern and Western (Ireland) 4 p.c.	84
Great Northern (Ireland) 4 p.c.	80
Great Southern and Western (Ireland) 4 p.c.	81
Midland Great Western of Ireland 4 p.c.	40
Do. 4½ p.c.	44
Do. 5 p.c.	51½
Sligo, Leit., and Northern Co. 3½ p.c.	35
Do. 3½ p.c.	35

Railway Debenture Stocks.

Belfast and County Down 4 p.c.	70
Do. 5 p.c.	80
Cork, Bandon, and South Coast 4 p.c.	60
Do. Bantry Exc. Railway 5 p.c.	70
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Do. 6 p.c. Pref.	11
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Do. 5 p.c. Deb. Stock	50
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very adaptable, excellent testimonial
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R.C., will be introduced; Adelaide
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women; highly recommended
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HOUSE or Parlourmaid, thoroug
years in general place; discharge
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Office, suburbs; highly recom
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R.C., highly recommended. Address
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good excellent references; wo
suburbs preferred.—B49, Irish Times
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experienced Parlourmaid, R.C.
appearance, who has been with her
wishes a situation near Dublin; hig
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Parlourmaid to a small family.
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A RESPECTABLE Girl, R.C., w
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12 months satisfactorily finished
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Nurse, good cook, good housem
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children; Nursing Home expe
Protestant, country preferred.—A 1186
CONTINUED ON PAGE 8.)

THE ENEMY'S POINT OF VIEW.

A WEEK'S EXTRACTS FROM THE GERMAN PRESS.

Armed Liners as "Pirates."

The Naval Correspondent of the *Lokalanzeiger* says that the treatment of armed merchant ships as warships is "temporary," and proceeds:—

"It must not be forgotten that one of the conditions upon which a ship can rightly be regarded as a warship has always been that the rules of regular warfare are observed. When we think of the Baralong case, of the order given for the treatment of our submarines, and of the refusal of help to the crew of the L 19—all of which things are not separate acts, but links in the system of murder—the question is justified whether we can regard such fighters as being on the same level as honourable soldiers and sailors.

"Of course, we shall never forget ourselves so far as to imitate British cearseness, but I think the British brain would not be able to appreciate the recognition of these freebooters as regular sailors. The fact that the recognition is only 'temporary' shows that such ideas have not been entirely unconsidered, and that what is to follow will depend upon the development of things.

"The main point of the whole business is that the submarine war will revive, and it must revive, because it alone hits England directly and each time England's vital nerve."

Similarly the *Münchner Neueste Nachrichten* says:—

"It needs no words to prove that, if the enemy's armed merchantmen are treated as ships of war, it is with the distinction that they constitute a particularly wicked kind of warship. They are the *franc-tireurs* of the seas. In land warfare a man who fires at enemy troops from an ambush, and five minutes afterwards goes for a walk in workman's dress, is put up against the nearest wall. If Germany deals so much more gently with these *franc-tireurs* at sea, and does not treat them as pirates, nobody can say that we have adopted extreme measures."

Other writers speak of the Memorandum as being "only a first step." The *Hamburger Nachrichten* says that England is like an artichoke whose leaves are torn off one by one, every fresh leaf that is disclosed being more "repulsive" than the last.

Admiral Kirchhoff's View.

An indirect comment on the controversy is given by Vice-Admiral Kirchhoff in the *Tägliche Rundschau*, which professes to be very well satisfied with the results of the first year of submarine warfare, which, as he points out, was begun on February 4, 1915, by the German declaration to neutral countries that the waters round Great Britain and Ireland, including the entire English Channel, had henceforth to be regarded as enemy territory. Vice-Admiral Kirchhoff makes a point of emphasising the "large number" of English merchant vessels sunk, forgetting, however, to inform his readers that most of them were simply trawlers and fishing boats, the loss of which had very little appreciable effect even on trade, and none at all on the conduct of the war. Yet does he refer to the immense importance of the measures adopted by the British Admiralty to put an end to the submarine menace. He concludes his article by saying:—

"It is quite clear that our submarine warfare has shown excellent results, and will, if it is energetically persisted in, help more and more towards the breaking up of our sinister adversaries. Let us make sure that we act on the principle of using all the methods of warfare now at our disposal. We must not let our attitude be dictated to by sentimental doctrinaires. We must keep one thought in mind day and night—Down with England! We are following the right lines; we possess men and resources; we need only to will the means to the end; and, in order that England may be stricken to the earth, we must attack her at her nerve centre—i.e., her shipping and her trade."

Bulgaria's War.

The special representative of the *Vossische Zeitung* at Sofia has had an interview with the Bulgarian War Minister, Major-General Naidenoff, who, in the course of his remarks, said:—

"Whatever preparations for defence the *Entente* troops at Salonika may be making, they are now at best in a position to postpone their inevitable annihilation, but not to prevent it altogether. It is, indeed, no secret to the English themselves that their continued occupation of Salonika is not merely useless, but even dangerous for the Allied Powers. However the British and the French may hurry forward their defences, nothing can in the long run prevent us from destroying them. They must, indeed, realise by this time that the goal of their Salonika enterprise has not been reached, that Serbia has not been saved, and the Central Empires have not been prevented from coming into direct communication with Turkey. So far as we are concerned, an attack on Salonika is not a particularly difficult task, and we do not doubt we can accomplish it successfully. As soon as we have brought our Salonika campaign to a conclusion the war is at an end so far as we are concern, unless, of course, we should happpen to be attacked again. The Italians have not yet started whether they wish to retain possession of Valona. If the Austrians decide to take Valona they will certainly capture the town, and the Italian troops will not be able to prevent them. . . . As the Central Empires have hitherto been so victorious, there is no fear that Rumania will venture to join issue with them."

The Bulgarian War Minister's views on Rumania do not harmonise with the disquieting statements—disquieting so far as the Central Empires are concerned—published in the German and Austrian newspapers. The fact that Bulgaria now regards her own war as practically at an end has been suspected for some weeks.

England's Campaign of Hate.

The *Frankfurter Zeitung* returns to the subject of the treatment meted out by the Scherrebek to the wrecked Zeppelin in order to place the responsibility for it on the propaganda of hate which, it alleges, is carried on in Great Britain by all organs of public opinion.

"Since the beginning of the war the greater part of the British Press has been at pains to instil a belief in the minds of the public at home and abroad that Germany is conducting the war to the utter violation of all commands of humanity, that the German soldiers are murderers, and do not differ materially from cannibals. Some British papers never refer to the Germans otherwise than under the name of Huns. The British Government has systematically fostered this wild hate by farcical inquiries into alleged German atrocities, partly in order to rouse in the people a warlike sentiment which at first was almost entirely absent, and partly in order to justify the shameful and cowardly use of savage Africans and Asiatics on the European theatre of war."

This complaint of hate propaganda in England is very much like the "Gracchi complaining of sedition," but it helps to establish the conclusion, which is that "there is nothing to be surprised at in the fact that people who even in ordinary times are guided more by instinct than by high ethics are led by the incitement of an unscrupulous Government Press to observe no longer the dictates of humanity towards an enemy in distress, who has been depicted over and ever again as the outcast of mankind."

The Failure of Socialism.

The central organ of the Social Democratic party would remind its victory-intoxicated countrymen that "greatly as the military balance shows in favour of Germany, our enemies give no sign of acknowledging themselves beaten. Their calculations as to the economic exhaustion of the Central Powers will prove as delusive as the hope of their military overthrow. True it is that, unless speedily brought to a close, the war will be one of exhaustion for all the belligerents, and must end in the utter ruin of Europe. The present outlook is desolate, for all thinking politicians, for all friends of civilisation; and yet salvation could be found if only the people of the warring nations would not close their eyes to every outlet. . . . The Governments one and all tell us that peace is only possible if each belligerent State will renounce all claim for the subjection of its enemy. Beyond this negative declaration they will not go. But if the Governments, acting in what they conceive to be the best interests of their respective countries, are forced to observe this restraint, then, all the more, does it become the duty of the nations themselves to make their peace desires articulate, and to build a bridge whereby the Governments may be brought together."

The *Vorwärts* then proceeds to upbraid the Socialists of all countries for their failure in this direction. "Instead (it says) of taking a stand as one great united force for peace, and combating the over-heated nationalistic fear-

A NIGHT ATTACK.

CANADIANS' SUCCESSFUL BOMBING RAID.

PRUSSIAN GUARD SURPRISED.

Behind the brief official report issued at the beginning of the month concerning a night bombing attack at a certain part of the British front, there lies a thrilling story, the main features of which may be constructed from conversations which a special correspondent has had with some of those who took part in it.

It was a veritable hell while it lasted, but its success was complete, as may be gathered from the fact that one part of the enemy's trench when the fight was over was choked with the bodies of the Prussian Guard, who had been taken unawares and blown to death as they scurried terror-stricken from their dugouts. The young Canadian officer who led his men through the barbed wire entanglements in to the very midst of the inferno was wounded no fewer than nine times, but he used his revolver and a hand-bayonet with telling effect.

There had been "a certain liveliness" in the German trenches for some days, and a bombing attack was planned with a double object, which may be guessed at but not mentioned. When darkness fell the bombers set forth on their dangerous mission. The night was favourable for the work they had on hand. Stealthily they crept forward, making slow but sure progress. A false move, a cough, or a sound of any kind meant certain death for the gallant little band. The Prussians were apparently in merry mood, and snatches of a love song telling of the girls they had left behind were occasionally borne on the night air from the bottom of the trench. But the Canadians had no time to think of the incongruity of love songs amid such scenes. Some of them remembered the story of one of their number having been crucified by those who were now singing of love and homeland, and one of them at all events was determined to avenge the crime.

At last the barbed-wire entanglements were reached, and the covering fire from the rifles in the British trenches became more frequent. The entanglements were stouter than had been anticipated, but not so stout as the determination of the men assaulting them. "Snip, snip, snip," the work went on as methodically as if it were being done in a factory under normal conditions. It took a long time, but in the end patience and endurance had their reward. The barrier was cut, and in a few seconds the Canadians would be in the thick of the fray. But there was a delay. Another party further along the line had had more difficulty with the entanglements, and were not yet ready for the final rush. Patiently the party waited. They even joked in whispers. "Like some rum, Jack?" queried a comrade scarcely above his breath. "No Dutch courage needed for the Maple Leaf, matey," came the almost inaudible rejoinder.

At length the signal came that the other party had completed their wire-cutting task and were ready to advance. The Canadians bounded forward, like Alaskan deer, ready to throw their bombs. A Prussian sentry started up to sound the gong and give the alarm; but, quick as lightning, the Canadian officer's revolver spoke, and the sentry fell forward dead. The Prussians were now aroused, and flares burst forth all along the line, dispelling the darkness and making it as clear almost as noonday. The men from Canada, however, did not pause to reflect on the inequality of the numbers revealed to their gaze, or the fact that they were up against a trench full of the Prussian Guard. They rushed in pell mell, throwing their bombs as they went, and bayoneting freely; their leader, already wounded, ever in the thick of the fray.

The Guardsmen had been taken by surprise, and rushed in wild confusion from their dugouts, some of them crying "Camerade," "Camerade." One of them held up his hands and shouted in English that he wished to surrender, but a rifle pointing from behind through his upraised arms revealed the ruse. A revolver bullet settled the first man's account, and the second went down with a bayonet in his chest.

Further up the line a machine-gun had been brought into action, and was just beginning to get dangerous when a well directed bomb put it and its operator flying into space. Hand to hand some of the Canadians encountered the Prussians, exacting a heavy toll. They carried everything before them, and at the end could go no further, as a heap of dead bodies and demolished trench barred the way.

The return journey to the British trenches had now to be made across a bullet-swept space in the moonlight flares. One of the Canadians was dragging back the lifeless body of a comrade, while another was supporting a tall, well-built countryman from whose temples the blood was coming.

As they came in sight of the open another machine-gun opened fire. The Canadians, weary with their exertions and dog-tired, looked like being swept away before the withering fire. They halted for an instant while one of their number sent a bomb hurtling through the air. It was the luckiest shot of the whole affair, for it fell right on the machine gun, silencing it and the gunner for ever. The party then advanced slowly over the bullet-dotted area, and the comrade who was carrying his dead companion had perforce to abandon the body when the entanglements were reached again. Thus twenty-three of the party of twenty-five returned, having accounted for about double their number, demolished two machine guns, and destroyed a considerable portion of trench, and a right hearty welcome was accorded them by their comrades, whose encouraging cheers had reached them while in the German trench.

CONSTANTINOPLE'S WAR STRAITS.

SUFFERINGS OF THE POOR.

A Turkish subject just arrived at Geneva, who left Constantinople barely a fortnight ago, having been resident there all his life, gives a depressing account of conditions in the Turkish capital. For a long while the Turks hourly expected the arrival of the Allies, and at the time of the naval attack on the Dardanelles the occupants of the various Ministries were actually beginning to leave, and, with the Sultan, were on the point of going to Anatolia. "I believe," says this Turk, in the *Journal de Genève*, "that if the Admiral in Chief had persevered an hour longer, instead of letting himself be depressed by the loss of the Bouvet, the Franco-British Fleet would have penetrated the Sea of Marmora. Since then, on many occasions, the Turks have very nearly run short of ammunition."

The Turkish losses, said this informant, had been enormous, fully 250,000 having arrived in Constantinople from the Dardanelles alone. All the public buildings had been commandeered and converted into hospitals, but there was a great scarcity of even the ordinary medicaments. In the first campaign against the Suez Canal, he said, Djemal Pasha's army was almost annihilated by disease and blinded by the sand, which, despite the use of yellow and smoked glasses, got into the eyes of the troops, causing ophthalmia. Enver Pasha, he said, governs by terror, with the support of the Germans. "The fate of Yusuf Izzedin," he proceeded "shows what anyone may expect who ventures to resist the tyrant of the hour." Enver Pasha never moves about except in an armoured motor-car, armed with revolver, and surrounded by an armed guard.

To show the extent of the requisitions for the Army, this Turk said that even pianos and silk stockings had been commandeered. Regarding the cost of living, he confirms what others have said, namely, that the prices of necessaries are in some cases six times as much as they were before the war. Those with money contrive to exist, but the poorer classes literally die of hunger. To add to the horrors epidemics of all kinds are raging. German officers who brought their wives and families with them to Constantinople have sent both away.

SEPARATION ALLOWANCES AND DRINK.

Sir Albert Meldon, R.M., presided yesterday at Bray Petty Sessions, and, arising out of a case of drunkenness against a soldier's wife who was receiving a separation allowance, said that this was another instance of increased drinking among women receiving separation allowances. Some a previous court day he had said he saw a Dublin magistrate had stated that he had not found the separation allowance had led to increased drinking but he (Sir Albert Meldon) had said that they had had found that to be the case in Bray. Some days ago evidence from everywhere showed that separation allowances had led to increased drinking amongst women, and only the other day at a conference of a women's association in England a resolution was passed deploring the increased drinking amongst women.

DULL BERLIN.

IMPRESSIONS OF A HUNGARIAN SOCIALIST.

DUTCH HATRED AGAINST GERMANS.

M. Ernö Garami, the editor of *Népszava*, who took part as a Hungarian representative at the Socialist Conference at The Hague, has returned to Budapest after spending a week in Germany, of which four days were passed in Berlin. He gives his impressions of the present state of affairs there, and can be regarded as one of those who are not biassed on the subject, for although he does not hide any affection for the Germans, neither as a Hungarian nor as a Socialist, he is intellectually sincere, and his facts may be regarded as indisputable.

M. Garami says that Berlin has quite another aspect from what it had before the war, and that compared with Budapest it is a dead city. The traffic on the streets is reduced to half of what it used to be. "One can cross the streets without any difficulty whatever. We can shoot wild geese in the Friedrichstrasse, especially in the evening hours, and one had to wait until the police constable allowed one to pass, now the constable's assistance is no longer necessary." "The spirit of the people is described by him as follows:—"The Berlin people are depressed and sad; they do not enjoy themselves, they do not dance any more. The music-halls close at 11, whether the performance is at an end or not; the cafes have to close an hour after midnight. Dancing is prohibited, and, as a matter of fact, nobody thinks of dancing, although before the war hundreds of dancing places were crowded with people all night in Berlin. All these are empty and forlorn now, symbolising the spirit of the people. The police take good care that the people shall not think of enjoyment, and the present conditions second their efforts.

"The working man, on the other hand, are not as idle as they are at Budapest, for the hundred thousand workers who lost their jobs in consequence of the total stoppage of German industry are given work by the munitions, so as to make their lot more endurable. Work had to be provided for the German workmen, and as war work was the only work available, and as all the hands could not be employed there, the cities and the State had to undertake new enterprises. In Berlin they are building underground railway lines many miles long, the whole of the Friedrichstrasse is paved with wooden boards, and a tunnel is being dug under it, many thousands of men working beneath the earth. They are boring a tunnel under the Spree for the underground railway, they are rebuilding their greatest railway station, the one at the end of Friedrichstrasse, making it double its former size, and in fact everywhere the work of building and reconstruction is going on, all at municipal or State expenses, for private enterprise is at a standstill."

IN THE CAFES.

"Another difference is also noticeable: nobody is shouting victory, as they do in Vienna and Budapest, not even in the cafes. Everybody speaks softly, as people would like to see the end of the war, but every Berliner knows that peace does not rest with the German Government, but with the Entente Powers, and in consequence they have resigned themselves to suffer to the end. In the cafes it is interesting to note the psychology of these people. They are allowed to read the French, English, and Italian papers, and the rush for these when they arrive in the afternoon is most significant. Everybody seems to understand the Entente languages, and they tear the English papers out of each other's hands. To get the *Matin* takes four hours as a rule, one of the waiters told me. They read the enemy papers most carefully, compare them with the German reports. They take out of their pockets and study them, just as enthusiastically as we used to do in the very first days of the war. All those foreign papers which they are forbidden to read are seen and read by them, and they are allowed to see or read are to be seen in Germany, and at the railway stations they are selling them just as before the war, only the prices are somewhat higher to cover the difference in postage.

"The German authorities look after every detail. During the four days of my stay in Berlin I did not see one crippled soldier, unlike Budapest, where we see them hobbling along with their crutches. The authorities in Berlin do not allow them to impress the people on the streets with the horror of war. Once only I saw a crippled soldier, and he was depressed quite enough without such sights as the crippled soldier."

Of the German theatres M. Garami says that only serious pieces are produced, the works of Goethe, Schiller, and Ibsen, and in none of the prominent theatres do they play light comedies or farces. Ibsen's "Peer Gynt" is the most popular play with Berlin soldiers just now. "This also is a feature of Germany at war," continued M. Garami, "that one could not see a man in evening dress and a gaily dressed lady in the theatres, and after coming from Budapest it is the most that I felt in Berlin as if I were walking in a cemetery on All-Saints' Day."

Speaking about his journey from Berlin to The Hague, M. Garami was not overflowing with praise for German thoroughness or German courtesy, for after having travelled six-teen hours from Berlin to the Dutch frontier town of Bentheim he found that, having forgotten to have his passport stamped by the Berlin police, he was turned back, in spite of his entreaties and curses, and had to return to Berlin by the next train and have his passport stamped. He says that when he offered telegraphic identification and a guarantee regarding his person, the officer in charge only gave him to understand he could choose between returning to Berlin or serving a sentence of six weeks' imprisonment. The officer added that such lenient treatment was accorded to him only because he was an ally, otherwise he would have had six weeks without any alternative at all.

THE PRAYER OF HOLLAND.

Speaking about his impressions of Holland, M. Garami said: "In Holland I did not meet one person, either among the Socialists or others I came across, who was not convinced of the ultimate victory of England and France. In Holland nobody believes that the successes of the Central Powers will be detrimental in the end to the *Entente*. It is almost incredible that a country where everybody speaks German, where their culture is almost entirely German owing to the affinity between the two languages, should entertain so deep a hatred against the Germans. This can only be explained by the fact that the fate of Belgium had an immense effect on the Dutch people, and they are almost trembling at the thought of sharing the same fate at the hands of Germany. The Belgian refugees who flooded the whole of Holland have brought the terrors of their own fate home to the Dutch, and by telling them the facts about German domination and frightfulness—the things we did not want to believe in Hungary—the Dutch have realised what they have to fear and detest, and whose victory they have to pray for. We in Hungary look upon things from quite a different point of view, and console ourselves by saying that the French would have behaved in the same way on German territory as the Germans behaved in Belgium. We seek for excuses in defence of the Germans, but the Dutch people think otherwise, for whatever happened in Belgium they saw with their own eyes. Indeed, I did not try to discuss the rights or wrongs of the thing with them, for the feeling that overpowered me was one of shame. I could understand quite well the Dutch prayer that the Germans should be beaten, and this desire lives so passionately in their hearts that they are blind to the German achievements and would rather see the war last for years and years than see peace established on the basis of the present situation. Under such circumstances the hospitable reception I had among the Dutch people surprised me greatly, but when I learned that their hatred is only directed against the Germans and not against Hungarians, in harmony with the feelings of the Belgians, who hate only their oppressors."

UNITED STATES AND ARMENIAN ATROCITIES.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
NEW YORK, FRIDAY.

The *World's* Washington correspondent telegraphs that Mr. Lansing has cabled the United States Embassy at Constantinople to protest to Turkey against the Armenian atrocities, and to express the hope that the perpetrators will be punished. The Embassy is to report that if there is any repetition of the atrocities the United States Government will be compelled to take more drastic action.

WAITING FOR THE DAY.

OUR BATTLE CRUISER FLEET.

THE TIGER AND THE ZEPPELIN.

The following account of a visit paid to the British Fleet, somewhere in the North Sea, has been supplied to us:—

Massive war-grey sea dogs aching for action, smaller low-lying, racy greyhounds of war, saucy little black torpedo craft and destroyers, all restive, but waiting, answered out here to-day the eternal question—Why does not the German Fleet come out!

With their noses constantly pointed towards the open sea, boilers crammed with steam, and their decks overflowing with officers and men ready to man the guns, Britain's battle-cruiser fleet is ready and anxious to get into action.

It was this squadron which the Admiralty permitted me to visit to-day. There was the Tiger, in all her feline majesty, as ready as any of her sister craft for the next brush with the enemy. Berlin believes the Tiger lies in the North Sea close off the Dogger Bank, not far from where the German Blücher fought her last in the action of January 24, 1915. She does nothing of the kind, and I was able to walk her deck to-day, talk to her officers and men, and to see those things which convinced me that she is the same old Tiger. She is the liveliest cat extant, and full of fight, with the whole of her nine lives to live.

DOGGER BANK MEMENTO.

One of the Tiger's armour plates just above the water-line still bears the dent of a heavy German shell. It was one of the Blücher's last "kicks," so I was informed by the Tiger's officers. It is regarded as a memento of the Dogger Bank battle, and has accordingly not been removed. The damage done by a shell which burst inside the Tiger's flagroom has been repaired as good as new.

Standing at anchor in an ever-ready battle-line fore and aft of the Tiger, the great Lion, the New Zealand, and the Princess Royal, with other units of the Fleet, are the fast scout cruisers. The diminutive giant-like destroyers, in advance of the heavy battleships, with guns that shoot over the horizon, are simply waiting for a signal out of the unknown which will tell them to prepare for action." Within less than ten minutes after the signal is given the lighter craft will be tearing seawards as fast as steam will drive them. Behind them, within ten minutes behind, will come the speedy battle cruisers, perfected to the minutest detail, prepared to hurl tons of steel in any direction.

That a probable solution of the German belief that the Tiger was sunk was due to a report carried by a Zeppelin was developed to me in the course of conversation. The German battle cruisers Derfflinger, Seidlitz, Moltke, and Blücher, as will be remembered, came into action at 9.30 a.m. The former trio managed to escape to their mine field at noon, but left the Blücher, which was not so speedy, to the mercy of the British battle cruisers. Very soon she had heeled over and turned turtle. At the time of the action a Zeppelin was hovering in the sky 10,000 feet above the scene, and it will be recalled that bombs from the air added complications to the work of the British vessels busy rescuing the Blücher's survivors.

WHAT THE ZEPPELIN SAW.

The Zeppelin finally turned tail and fled in the wake of the Derfflinger, Seidlitz, and Moltke. It carried back to the German Admiralty the report that the foundering vessel was the Tiger; at all events, that is the theory that was disclosed to me for the first time to-day.

Officers and men alike on the battle cruisers do not lack for diversion while waiting for the enemy. Every ship has its little munition factory—lathes in the hold and sewing machines on the lower decks, where the men while away the off-hours turning out munitions of war. Some of the outpatients—small shell cases and canvas requisites for soldiers—goes to the land fronts. Cinema entertainments are available on every ship. Raft races between the various crews are frequently held, and the sports held during this period of watchful waiting, and the moral everywhere is excellent from Admirals and officers to the lowest seamen.

WHAT GERMAN SOLDIERS THINK.

REPROACHES FOR CIVILIANS.

A very interesting light on the feelings of the German civil population is thrown by an article in a recent number of the *Leipziger Zeitung*. When it is realised that this newspaper is one of the organs very closely in touch with the German Government, the significance of the article will be seen, and it will be all the more striking. The writer is Dr. Resch—a high-school teacher in time of peace, but now serving as a non-commissioned officer with the German army in Champagne. He says:

"We soldiers at the front get to know of what is going on at home from the newspapers, from letters, and from the reports of those who have returned to their regiments or leave of absence. We hear much that is good, brave, and inspiring, but we hear many things too that we cannot understand, perhaps because we are living here in different circumstances from those at home. We soldiers at the front have become strange people. The hard life we lead makes us judge everything according to its strength or weakness. Through our continual play with life and death, we have, as it were, become accustomed to conduct in the grand manner, and anything that rises up from life, it seems to us, ought to bring with it something noble and great. Nothing disappoints us more than narrow trivialities. We are not at all hurt, for example, when we hear that the inhabitants of our great cities are still imbued with the love of life and continue to take their pleasure even in the shadow of death. Here, too, the gravity and the joy of life are found side by side, but it appears to us absurd that in the midst of the great national sacrifice which is brought about by putting people of all classes on rations, some people should seek to avoid the profound nobleness of self-sacrifice. We hear that some people endeavour to collect meat just before the two days in the week when the Government has decreed that no meat shall be used, simply in order that they may continue their evil habits. We soldiers know that victory depends upon exact obedience to even the most trifling order. We hear of other people who endeavour to take advantage of the circumstances by shamelessly contriving to make a little extra profit here and a little extra profit there. This absolute want of self-control, which is in utter discord with the spirit of this great time, is something that we cannot understand; it seems to us, above all, so depressing that people at home, by their childish conception of what constitutes duty and self-sacrifice, should weaken the value and effect of our deeds of arms.

WAR PROFITS.

"Still less easily can we understand how it is that merchants at home dare to hold back their stocks of wheat, potatoes, and meat, and how they can think only of artificial methods of raising prices. When we hear or read of such doings at the front the blush of shame comes to our cheeks, and our very souls burn with anger and indignation, for we learn daily from the lips of our comrades that even the natural rise in prices has driven to the direst necessity the wives and dependents of those who are fighting here amid the smoke and flame of battle.

"Another matter which gives us much to think about is war profits. In this case also it does not seem to us that the mentality of the people who are making large profits by the war is in harmony with the spirit of the time. We have, it is true, heard of one or two isolated instances of men who felt it to be their duty voluntarily to put a proportion of their earnings at the disposal of the state; but it appears to be only too evident that in the great majority of cases a part of the extra earnings due to the war will be wrung from the people who have made them only by the force of law."

The writer goes on to complain of the attitude shown in the reports of Parliamentary proceedings, and laments the absence of unity in the country, indicated by the discussion of such questions irrelevant to the war as the Prussian franchise. He regrets particularly the utterances of some of the Conservative members of the Prussian Diet, who, in his opinion, appear to have no conception whatever of the hardships suffered by soldiers at the front, and by the great body of the people, in the struggle for national existence.

THE FRENCH COOK.

HIS TRIALS AND HIS BRAVERY IN WAR.

He has been a person of importance. He had his period of honour, and true honour, in the first part of the war and until the beginning of 1915.

It was the time when there were still section cooks. You might smile at him, for his whims, his wards, and trappings, but not laugh, I assure you; if he levied a few choice morsels out of the mess, and often tasted the troop's wine, he had more than his share of danger. To bring warm or tepid soup to them of an evening, to make, before daylight, the second distribution, that of coffee, the men knew that the cook did not sleep during the night, and that to reach them he travelled through unpleasant ways, where death went by. (Thus writes M. René Bazin, in the *Echo de Paris*).

Fancy the plains of the North; a sky low-lying, under which slide shapeless sockets of water, urged by the tide-wind; half-deserted fields; broken roads, dimly illumined in the great nights which falls, by the gleam of two canals, very straight, which accompany them, and go in silence to the distant sea. Before the sea is reached, there are many villages. In one of them a detachment is getting ready to set out for the trenches, which are yonder towards the east, whence is heard the rumbling of the gun. The men have left off their beds every barn, every ruin, for the shells have broken six house-fronts and ten roofs in the past week. A brown mass is seen moving in the middle of the highway. The master is almost finished. A corporal is scolding the laggards. The moment the detachment begins to march, the last appears at the corner of a lane. He is buckling his belt, with difficulty, upon his tunic-front. He is a low-sized man, who heaves in advancing, and growls under his breath at having to bestir himself. He is as well, of all the soldiers present, the most farseeing, the most burdened, the most warmly clad, the most amply booted, the most thickened by the contents of his pockets. He has put over his great-coat a cape of sheepskin; he has hung from his belt a tin cooking-pot; he wears round his neck a green muffler untied, which hangs like a stole; he has covering his hands, a woodman's mittens, and overtopping his head, as a plume, a huge jack, gaping on each side, tied up, battered, tinkling, surmounted by three packages of carrots, which bobble, a bundle of leeks, the broken leaves of which, shaken in time, drop upon his shoulder like the tail of a dead cock.

TWILIGHT TO TWILIGHT.

He places himself at the left of the company with the other cooks. But, about eight o'clock,—when the company will reach the ruined village, where the most important structure is only a foot high, he will stop, and take cover in which he can do his cooking. If there is no cellar, he knows of a shelter, a damaged rick of straw, a bank, which will hide the flame of his fire and the flight of the sparks. There, this worthy fellow, during a week, will be the man of work and watching. Not alone must he cook, prepare the coffee, the dinner, the stew, and the rest for the soup, he must also guard the provisions, a couple of mites behind in a by-road, where he draws the rations, and carry to the first line, a mile and a half in front, the provisions for the day. All this he must do between the twilight of evening and the twilight of morning. A poet could have shown him unceasingly on the alert between the two great lights, the twilights of the day. The mud, the rain, the holes into which he falls with the pots, are only the lesser troubles. The great one is called death. It is there, always present, and in the dark, when he draws near the trenches.

For, at that time, already far off, there existed only narrow communications few in number and of short length. It was deemed needful to go openly to rejoin the comrades. Many of the cooks who went off thus, their hands full, awaited by the fighting men, never arrived. In the night, a bullet, a foolish shot brought them down. Saint Zita, the Sicilian, patroness of their society, must have received more than one in Paradise. "Come, my good fellow, the mess is over; the goodness of heart has spoken for them; and the heavens are open."

The cook does not speak like a young lady. He gives his vigilant coloured names, in use in the great army, and which have found in the new story. I knew one who had delayed one morning, in the lines next to the enemy; it was a Sunday. He was chatting with friends, seated on the parapet, in the sun, all over like a scape only a perpendicular wall of clay and pebbles, within reach; joyful in spite of this, and forgetting the time of day. A soldier passed, carrying the steaming pitcher upon his child's face, and this red beard which laughter was parting into ten locks:

"Well met! I am almost sure you will answer me well. Are I Mass?"

"That is not to be refused; but it is a long time—I shall make mistakes."

"Come all the same, I'll prompt you."

They went into the dug-out, where two candles were already burning, stuck in the fusses of shells. At the beginning the cook recalled by himself some Latin responses; he repeated others which were contracted to him. But after the Pater, where he

MUSICAL TOPICS.

"MANON" IN ENGLISH.

"Manon" has now been added to the list of the works of Puccini sung in English, and, perhaps, when next a first-class opera company comes to Dublin, its repertoire will include this opera. We shall then be acquainted with the whole series of Puccini's extant operas, of which "Manon" is the earliest. One written still earlier, and named "Edgar," was put on the shelf long ago. The series now runs—"Manon," "La Bohème," "La Tosca," "Madame Butterfly," and "The Girl of the Golden West." Knowing the rest so well, I have often wondered what "Manon" was like, and, doubtless, a great many others have had the same curiosity on the point. Here is what the critic of the *Pall Mall Gazette* says, writing with regard to the production in London a few nights ago:—

"The strongest impression gained on hearing Puccini's 'Manon' after so many of its successors is one of a theatrical technique that is positively amazing when one remembers how far back it is dated. It surprises none nowadays that Puccini's dramatic coups all 'come off' because we know what to expect, but 'Manon' tempts one to believe that he had this theatrical instinct at birth. Musically it is less satisfactory, though it contains episodes that may rank among Puccini's best pages. It is partly the unevenness of the musical interest but much more the lack of true balance between orchestra and stage—an art that could not be instinctive, but had to be acquired with experience. In his later operas Puccini is seldom at fault in this respect, but in 'Manon' there are too many moments when the orchestral texture is too heavy for the kind of vocal writing used. It would be more suited for 'music-drama,' and suggests Wagnerian influence. These are, however, to some extent side issues. In the end 'Manon' still makes a brave show."

In attaching importance to Puccini's theatrical technique, this critic is, of course, perfectly right. In a large number—perhaps, the majority—of operas we tolerate dramatic weakness for the sake of the music. Look, for example, at Wagner's works, which he called music-dramas in order to emphasise his sense of the importance of the dramatic element. The theatrical technique, though extremely labored, is utterly askew—a complete failure. Even those who are most heartily devoted to his music, and would tolerate almost anything for its sake, become impatient with the working of his theatrical ideas. His are literary-dramatic, not theatre-dramatic, conceptions. At the other end of the scale, there are the operas—chiefly Italian—which are, from the dramatic standpoint, merely silly, and but for them musical justification would not have a moment's tolerance. Amongst classical operas which show excellent theatrical technique I would cite "Carmen" and Halevy's "The Jewess," and Verdi's "Aida." Possibly the theory might be sustained that much of Meyerbeer's reputation even to this day (when the bottom has been knocked out of his musical reputation) has been due to the quality of his theatrical technique.

Puccini's operas, I conceive, must be quite interesting to non-musical persons. His music is beautiful and great enough to carry through a poor theatrical scheme; but his theatrical schemes are not poor. I dislike melodrama, and, musical considerations apart, should never care for a play of the type of "The Girl of the Golden West." But I know that, as melodrama, it is excellent theatrical stuff; and if I liked melodrama, I should like that particular opera of Puccini's very much.

In speaking of Puccini's theatrical technique, we mean far more, of course, than that he has selected good pieces and added music to them. That, indeed, he has done. "La Tosca" is a Sardou classic; "The Girl of the Golden West" was a David Belasco success in America before Puccini took it up; "La Bohème" and "Madame Butterfly" are well worthy of standing alone—without the music. But Puccini does not merely add music to these pieces: his music enhances their theatrical qualities. You know that the plays are good pieces apart from the music, but when you know them with the music you feel that they would seem flat to you without it. This is least so in the case of "La Tosca"; most so in the case of "La Bohème." It is in regard to "La Tosca," indeed, that the one noteworthy criticism of Puccini's theatrical technique has been made. The Prayer in the second act, the insertion of which was dictated by operatic musical convention, has been declared a fault from the dramatic point of view. In "La Bohème," on the other hand, the music constantly adds to the dramatic value of the piece. The essential character of the Bohemians seems to be emphasised by the fact of their singing instead of talking. In the carnival scene music is of the essence. The pathos of the final scene is bound up with the reminiscent nature of the music, which, by solely recalling the happy earlier days of the Bohemians, gives the ending in which the sad incidents of the scene become almost intolerably heartrending. The music as a whole, too, helps to give a certain degree of unity to the opera, which is based not on a connected plot, but on a string of separate episodes in the life of the Bohemians.

If Italy were our enemy instead of our ally, these operas of Puccini's would not have been enjoyed by London audiences as they have been doing the past few months. I do not allude to any probable inability to listen in the mood of enjoyment to music which one would constantly remember was written by an enemy subject, but to the fact that the works of an enemy subject cannot be performed at all. Performance of a work by a living composer involves hiring the performing right, or, to put it another way, incurring liability to pay a royalty—and if the right were held by an enemy subject cannot be performed at all. Performance of a work by a living composer involves hiring the performing right, or, to put it another way, incurring liability to pay a royalty—and if the right were held by an enemy, that is a transaction which would count as trading with the enemy. The position resembles that with regard to publishing copyright. In *The Times* of Friday appears a notice from the President of the Publishers' Association, quoting the following extract from the organ of the German music publishers:—

Herr Johannes Platt in Berlin takes advantage of the war to reprint under the title of 'War Editions' compositions of the works of enemy composers which are protected under the Law of Copyright. The signatory Association disapprove of this action of Herr Platt in some that reflects unfavourably on the German music trade. They maintain that all regulations concerning copyright are operative in the fullest sense of the word even during the war. Moreover, the interests of the German music trade are likely to suffer in enemy countries through such a proceeding, because our enemies are not likely to hesitate to employ modes of retaliation which will hit us harder than our enemy is hurt by the action of Herr Platt. It is to be anticipated that Herr Platt will be prosecuted by the original publisher at the conclusion of peace. We therefore warn German music retailers not to assist the action of Herr Platt, and point out the consequence that may arise to any dealer if he neglects this warning." The notice is given on the authority of the chief music-publishers' associations of Germany, such as the "Deutscher Musikalienverleger Verein." As it frankly states, Germany has more to lose than to gain by a disregard of the international copyright convention, in respect to music.

A. W. G.

SOUTH AFRICANS IN EGYPT.

SENUSSI CAMP CAPTURED.

REMARKABLE STEADINESS UNDER SEVERE FIRE.

The Press Association has received the following from Egypt:—

On January 22 the 2nd (Natal and Orange Free State) Regiment, which had disembarked the previous day at Mersa Matruh after a voyage which had knocked over even the most hardened mariners amongst them, received the welcome news that they were to accompany a force of all arms which was under orders to move out that day into the desert to attack the camp of the Senussi, a hostile tribe of Bedouins, on whom, it will be remembered, the British forces inflicted a pretty severe defeat on Christmas Day. The Senussi were supposed to be in possession of artillery and machine guns, and to be led by German and Turkish officers. Their camp had been located at a point some ten miles west of Bir Shola by means of aeroplane reconnaissance, and they were reported to be in considerable numbers there.

The forces moved out at 3 p.m. from Mersa Matruh, each man carrying a day's rations, a further two days' supply being taken on the transport which accompanied the column. Seventeen miles of heavy going over the desert had to be covered that day, a pretty severe task for the South Africans, after their sufferings on the recent voyage, but they came manfully up to the scratch, and by ten that night the men had been put behind them, and Bir Shola was reached.

SEVERE TEST FOR INFANTRY.

Here the force bivouacked for the night, Bir Shola being the proud possessor of a small well, the water supply from which had been opened up by Field Engineers sent forward with the advance guards by means of pumps and canvas troughs. The march had been a severe test for the infantry, whom the desert always hits hard, and the conditions were more than usually trying owing to the recent rains, which had rendered the ground very sodden and heavy in many parts. But every man reached camp, and the last straggler was in very shortly after the arrival of the main body. The force bivouacked for the night in a rectangular formation, strong pickets being thrown out to guard each front.

At 6 a.m. on the following morning the march was resumed, the force moving out in two columns, which were ordered to keep in close touch with each other, the right being composed of mounted troops and artillery, the infantry forming the left column.

It was Sunday morning, but it was by no means to prove a day of peace. Indeed, Sunday appears to be a day for which the god of battles has a decided predilection, judging by the history of most campaigns. The desert here extends over a vast level plain with never a sign of vegetation—just a huge limitless region of sand. And the going proved heavier than ever.

After marching for about eight miles, the advance guard of mounted troops, which was well ahead, came in contact with the enemy, who opened fire on them at a very long range. The infantry column was pushed on in the direction from which the volume of guns was heard, and on getting up found that the mounted troops had located the enemy, who were defending their camp on a frontage of about 2½ miles, and were firing on the advancing troops with machine guns and field 9-pounders. They were occupying a semi-circular position on a low ridge, although, perhaps, the ridge would be better described as an undulation or fold in the ground, which was really all it consisted of.

ATTEMPTED ENCIRCLING MOVEMENT.

The Senussi had dug themselves in on this ridge, and their exact position was extremely difficult to locate. The horns of their position were thrown well forward on the flanks of our line of advance, and, at one time during the fight, they appeared to be making an effort to carry out an encircling movement. The mounted troops were allotted the task of engaging the flanks, and the infantry column was pushed into the attack on the centre of the enemy's position.

The South Africans, with whose fortunes in the engagement this account is chiefly concerned, were ordered to support the 15th Sikhs, who were sent forward to attack the enemy's centre. As has already been stated, the Senussi were firing at a very long range, and a long flat 250,000 lb got across before their lines could be reached. It was all dead level, without a scrap of cover of any description, and it was swept by their fire. They had several machine guns, which were skilfully posted and handled, and it was chiefly from those guns that our casualties occurred. The Sikhs advanced over this plain, followed by the South Africans in support, and casualties were occurring from the commencement of the advance.

A noticeable feature was the remarkably steady manner in which these troops went forward under a fire which was rapidly becoming more severe, the fire from the machine guns and 9-pounders being supplemented by heavy rifle fire. After covering the first three-quarters of a mile, the South Africans were ordered to prolong the firing line on the right of the Sikhs, and the attack was then pushed home by a series of rushes until the enemy were driven from their positions and their camp captured. The Senussi rapidly withdrew, keeping up a desultory fire as they retired, until the dusk and desert swallowed them up.

MANY ENEMY DEAD LEFT.

They left many of their dead on the field, and it is presumed that they were successful in getting many other of their dead and wounded away, from the quantities of blood spoor they left on their tracks.

Our ambulance had formed a dressing station at the point where the Sikhs first started their advance, and all the wounded were attended to there.

The whole force bivouacked for the night on the scene of the engagement, marching the next day back to Bir Shola, where another night was spent, and returning on the third day of Mersa Matruh.

The casualties in the South African Regiment were heavy, 1 officer and 7 other ranks being killed, and 5 officers and 105 other ranks wounded, of whom 1 officer and 2 other ranks have since died of their wounds. The regiment did good work in the engagement, and the remarkable steady advance of young soldiers under a heavy direct and enfilade fire drew favourable comment from other regiments which took part in the engagement.

The two days' march back to Matruh, over the greater part of which the wounded had to be carried on stretchers or limber wagons, must have proved a very trying ordeal to them, but it was borne with soldierly cheerfulness.

AUSTRIA WITHOUT MONEY.

ITALIAN REPORT OF SERIOUS DIFFICULTIES.

A special telegram from Zurich to the *Stampa*, of Turin, throws light on the situation in Austria. The war has already cost Austria 25 milliards of crowns (nominally £1,000,000,000). These figures have been established by indirect means, but Austria admits that the war costs her about half the sum it costs Germany. The war loans have reached about one-half the sum indicated, and Germany has supplied advances to the amount of about 800,000,000 crowns (less than £34,000,000), but this is only a trifle as compared with the general needs. Whence the other milliards were drawn is a mystery.

The conferences of the German Finance Minister, Dr. Helfferich, with the Austro-Hungarian Ministers were intended doubtless to create some order in the country's finances. The deficit is being made up by a wholesale issue of paper money. If the Austro-Hungarian banks revealed their balances—which they have not done for the past three years—it might give an insight into the abyss in which the Austro-Hungarian finances are plunged.

The municipalities find themselves in difficulties, and resort to numerous expedients. Vienna had to call within the last few days for 60,000,000 crowns (£2,500,000) at home and is negotiating another loan of 100,000,000 marks (£5,000,000) with German banks. Small towns like Gratz and Klagenfurth are also looking for loans. If the public treasury is feeling the distress, private purses are equally pinched, considering that the price of living has increased more than 100 per cent.

The *Neue Freie Presse* alludes to another subject giving still more concern—namely, the want of military reserves. Finally, the agitation of the Czechs is beginning to produce an uneasy sensation in Vienna.

At Newcastle Corn Market on Saturday wheat advanced 1s. per quarter. Maize was eighteenpence dearer, and oats sixpence dearer.

IRELAND'S ROLL OF HONOUR.

Captain R. M. F. PATRICK, 42nd Deoli Regiment, wounded in France, and awarded the Military Cross, is the son of the Rev. Chancellor Patrick, M.A., Mocollup Rectory, Ballyduff, S.O., Co. Waterford.

Lieut. J. B. CLIBBORN, 3rd Canadian Mounted Rifles, died of wounds in France, was the son of Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Clibborn, Crawford Bay, B.C., and nephew of Miss Clibborn, 14 Carlisle avenue, Donnybrook, Dublin.

Lieutenant R. C. Byrne, 6th Royal Dublin Fusiliers, mentioned in Sir Ian Hamilton's despatches, and awarded the Military Cross, is the husband of Mrs. Byrne, 4 Charlotte place, Upper Drumcondra, Dublin.

Private Ashley MORTON, 2nd Royal Irish Rifles, wounded in France, is the son of Mr. George Morton, newsagent, 12 Sarsfield quay, Dublin.

Private John P. TOHILL, Army Service Corps Motor Transport, killed in France, was the husband of Mrs. Tohill, 67 Hollybank road, Drumcondra, Dublin.

Quartermaster-Sergeant Cecil GAYNOR, died of fever at Transvaal, was the son of Mrs. Gaynor, Machadoffs, Transvaal, and the late Mr. Thos. R. Gaynor, Ellesmere

Weekly Irish Times Series.

THE EPIC OF THE YSER.

FRANCE'S NAVAL BRIGADE.

M. PIERRE LOTI'S EULOGY.

Paris, which is, above all, the town of generous outbursts, entertained, some days ago, our sailor-riflemen of the Yser—at least all that is left of the heroic band, the few that could return. It was, indeed, well to entertain them thus; but, alas, how soon it will be forgotten! (says M. Pierre Loti, of the French Academy, in *Le Figaro*.)

To-day our esteemed and eminent Minister of Marine, Admiral Lacaze, to glorify the brigade three-quarters destroyed, orders to be affixed aboard our warships the commander-in-chief's fine parting order of the day, which ends with the words: "The valiant conduct of the Naval Brigade on the plains of the Yser, at Nieuport, and at Dixmude, will remain for the armies an example of martial spirit and of devotion to fatherland. The sailor-riflemen and their leaders may be proud of the glorious new page which they have inscribed in their history." In truth, this public notice will endure longer than the receptions of Paris; but, alas! it also will be forgotten, it will be forgotten all too soon.

THE CROSS OF HONOUR.

Inasmuch as, after the break-up of the chosen band, it was decided to preserve its colours in the Army, in order to perpetuate its memory, might not the cross of honour be attached to such an exceptional flag? This was thought over, it appears; but it may be—I know nothing thereof—it may be they stopped in face of some one of the regulations, for I seem to have read that to award the cross, the flag must have been unfurled on the occasion of a great attack, of a great feat of arms. The case of our sailor-riflemen is so unusual that no rule could have foreseen it. How should they have unfurled their flag, in the midst of the unheard-of struggle, since in those days they had not got it yet? A brigade united together hastily, they had been sent into the firing-line without the matchless tri-coloured emblem which all the other brigades of France leaving. It was only later, well after their great deeds of the beginning, that it was given to them, when their part was a little less dreadful. In these conditions I am willing to hope it will be possible to make the rule yield in their favour. Were it decorated, this flag, all the sailors who received it with so much delight yonder, the day that its three colours were still quite new and splendid, would feel themselves as well as if rewarded, and later, in the future, when their descendants would come to look upon it, poor sacred rag, soiled by the dust, this cross, which would have been accorded to it, would speak to them better of the sublime acts done upon the Belgian front.

The country could not honour too much the brigade of sailors of which it has been officially written: "No soldiery, in no period, has done what they have done." And here is a passage from the letter which on the day of its break-up, General Baille d'Oisel, having reviewed it for the last time, wrote to the naval captain, Paillet, who then commanded

LAST WEEK

NORTON'S Great Discount SALE

CLOSES SATURDAY NEXT

The 26th Inst.

Last opportunity for getting 20/- worth of goods for 18/- cash.

THE **Monster Stores,** 5 HENRY STREET, DUBLIN.

Closes on Saturday at 1 o'clock.

The Irish Times.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1916.

Bulgaria's Position.

King Ferdinand of Bulgaria has cut short his visit to Vienna and returned in haste to Sofia. It is a far cry from the Bulgarian capital to Erzerum, but it is by no means extravagant to regard this event as a direct political consequence of the fall of the Armenian fortress. Hitherto Turkish forces have relieved the Bulgarians of guard duty on the Ægean and Black Sea littorals, as well as to some extent on the Danube, and have thus set free almost the whole of the Bulgarian Army for the Macedonian and Albanian fronts. No special Turkish interest is served by these dispositions, certainly no interest so urgent as the defence of Armenia and of the approaches to the line of communications with Bagdad. It is highly improbable, in these circumstances, that the Turks will be content to permit their present dispositions in Thrace to remain undisturbed. On the contrary, the first call for reinforcements for the Armenian front is likely to be made on the garrisons in Thrace. The withdrawal of any considerable part of these Turkish garrisons will react promptly upon the strategic situation of Bulgaria. She will be compelled herself to undertake the protection of her Black Sea and Ægean coastlines and the Danube, and her fronts facing the Franco-British forces in Macedonia and the Italian forces in Albania will be correspondingly weakened. The prospect that, with no support from the Turks, and with only such support as the Austro-Germans can spare from their increasing preoccupations elsewhere, he may have to confront a combined Allied offensive in the Balkans, possibly reinforced by a Rumanian attack, will not leave King Ferdinand unmoved. Already there is trustworthy intelligence of increasing dissension between the Bulgarians and the Germans, and of growing economic distress in Bulgaria. That country did not contemplate a protracted campaign. She entered the war on a strictly limited liability, in the comfortable belief that Serbian Macedonia would fall an easy prey to her, as it did, and that the Allies, after that event, would refuse the German challenge to make the Balkans a main battle-ground, as they did not. She has occupied Serbian Macedonia; but she has suffered very severe losses in men, she is supporting a terrible economic strain, and she is faced with the prospect of continuing in disadvantageous circumstances a desperate struggle for the possession of her spoils. It is not surprising that, even before the fall of Erzerum, report was busy with the suggestion that King Ferdinand, who possesses a sense of honour which it would be a compliment to describe even as rudimentary, is not altogether averse from the idea of concluding a separate peace with the Allies. The suggestion is one at which the Allies would look with suspicion, for they have had a bitter experience of King Ferdinand's tortuous diplomacy, and they cannot afford to ignore the consideration that such a manœuvre might easily be inspired by a motive no more honest than that of compromising their relations with Rumania and Greece. But the suggestion that he contemplates playing the Central Powers false is strengthened by the statement, for which Reuter's Agency vouches, that the Kaiser has promised further concessions to Bulgaria, assuring her that she need have no fear of his considering the interests of Greece to the prejudice of the full realisation of her claims in Macedonia. Those claims include Drama and Kavalla, and possibly Salonika and the Chalcidice Peninsula as well, and the Kaiser would scarcely have damaged his case with Greece by recognising them unless the necessity of keeping Bulgaria in line were peremptory. King Ferdinand may, or he may not, have believed that Germany's recognition of these claims would be of any practical value towards his realisation of them. But he will certainly recognise that the fall of Erzerum and the withdrawal of Turkish support from Thrace has made their realisation impossible, and that, far from being in a position to contemplate further conquests, he will be very hard put to it to retain his present spoils. We may expect that his manœuvres towards a separate peace with the Allies will shortly assume a more definite shape. Whether the Allies would be prepared to entertain such an overture on any terms is a very different, and a very delicate, question.

SCOTTISH MATRIMONIAL CASE.

Lord Anderson, in the Edinburgh Court of Session on Saturday, pronounced a decree of nullity in the action by Mabel Elizabeth Stuttle, a school teacher, of Leytonstone, Essex, against Frederick Hudson Scales, now in the Australian Expeditionary Force, on the ground that neither party had fulfilled the statutory requirement of twenty-one days' residence in Scotland. They went through a form of marriage by declaration before the Sheriff at Oban on 23rd August, 1911, and only lived together until the 26th. The petitioner returned to her parents, who disapproved of the engagement.

LONDON CORRESPONDENCE.

153 FLEET STREET, LONDON,
SATURDAY NIGHT.

It seems that the garrison of Erzerum escaped before the Russians took possession of the place, and that the Turkish Army is now in flight under terrible conditions, hampered by the attacks of the Russians in pursuit. The suffering entailed by such a flight in the awful weather prevailing in the district can only be imagined, but the sufferings of the heroic Russians must be nearly as great. It is now revealed that the Germans worked to fortify Erzerum for over a year, but all their efforts were made vain by the Russian big guns. The same kind of thing may be expected to happen when the Allies begin to advance in the east and west. Germany swept her path free of Belgian fortresses with her mighty guns. Now in turn she may find that her fortresses will be unable to stand the great guns of the Allies.

It is reported from Paris that the Crown Prince is waiting a favourable opportunity to launch a great attack in the Argonne or the Champagne. He is said to have prepared a colossal amount of stores and material, and it has been ascertained that in the rear of the German positions a great concentration of troops has begun. It is also known that the Crown Prince has at his command the finest troops in Germany. The French General Staff may be trusted to see that the Crown Prince meets with the reception that is his due. If this desperate plan of trying to break through the western front is pressed, it may be regarded as certain that one of the greatest battles of the war is in sight. It is probable that the Crown Prince will try his utmost to regain his lost *prestige* regardless of men or material.

It is quite possible that the Germans will make every effort to achieve a notable success before long. The German people are deadly tired with hollow victories, and the news of the fall of Erzerum must have had a marked effect on the spirits of the populace. Maximilian Harden, the undaunted German publicist, in the pages of the *Zukunft* warns Germany that she has no time to lose. "We can no longer grant to our foes any more than a brief moment's respite." That time is the essence of the bargain is well recognised in Germany now.

The Allied campaign in the Cameroons is at an end with the surrender of Mora, the last German fortified place. Only German East Africa remains now out of all the German Colonies, and the Allies are in possession of vast territories once belonging to Germany to set against the outrage on Belgium, the conquest of Poland, and the over-running of the Balkans. It is possible that the conquest of German East Africa will take some considerable time, for there the enemy seems to be in strong force and to have ample supplies. General Smuts, however, may be trusted to clear the Germans out of Africa for good and all.

Considerable importance is attached to the visit to be paid by the Commander-in-Chief at Salonika, General Sarrail, to Athens on Tuesday next. Much ceremony will accompany the visit, and the arrangements include a reception, an official dinner to which all the members of the Cabinet have been invited, and an audience of King Constantine.

I have on more than one occasion recently referred to the drop in the value of the German mark, but the subject is one that may be returned to again, for the fall has now become extraordinary. The biggest decline appears to be in Berne and Amsterdam, where the Bourses are in the closest possible touch with Berlin. Every Continental Bourse, however, records a decrease in value to-day, and, in spite of strong efforts made in Amsterdam to stop the fall by a number of bankers, it was very great. In the United States and in the Argentine heavy falls were reported. British currency at the same time remains quite steady. It is said that both Germany and Austria are sending large quantities of gold to Holland to cover their buying and stop the decline. The gold in the Netherlands Bank is now three times higher than it was when the war began.

A French newspaper, the *Cri de Paris*, publishes an interesting article on the Kaiser's Generals, showing that most of those occupying high positions had before the war been placed on the retired list by their Imperial master for incompetence or similar reasons. Hindenburg, says the article, commanding the 4th Army Corps at Magdeburg, was placed on the retired list after holding a command for eight years for not having given proof of character. He was then sixty-three years old. Von Bissing had been in retirement eight years when appointed Military Governor of Belgium. After having brilliantly commanded the 7th Corps at Münster, he was in November, 1907, suddenly asked to seek retirement. He protested, and caused a scandal in consequence, and as punishment the Kaiser withheld the usual coveted decoration accorded to retired commanders. General von Falkenhausen, commanding in North Alsace, had been on the retired list thirteen years when war broke out, having suddenly been relieved of his command of the Wurtemberg Corps after holding it for only three months. General Gaede, commanding in South Alsace, was also placed on the retired list for incapacity in 1909, when in command of a division at Metz. Finally, Von der Goltz retired from the active list in 1903 on the ground of fatigue.

The United States are protesting against any further Armenian massacres, and a formal intimation to the effect has been lodged with the Turkish Government. It is also said that the Washington State Department threatens to take drastic action. There may be truth in the story, for the United States earlier in the war intervened on behalf of these cruelly wronged people. It is rather unfortunate, however, that the United States should wait until this late hour before they make a protest. A protest against the Belgian outrages would have had an immense moral effect, and might even have saved thousands of Armenians from rape and massacre. It is almost impossible to gauge what would have been the effects of a determined protest by the United States when the Belgians were undergoing such cruel treatment.

On Tuesday I referred to the coming retirement of a number of members of the House of Commons. To-day it is announced that two well-known figures are shortly to disappear from the House of Commons in the persons of Sir John Rolleston and Mr. T. Taylor, the former being the Unionist member for East Herts and the latter the Liberal member for Bolton. Both have announced their intention of resigning their seats at once. Mr. J. W. Logan, the Liberal member for the Harborough Division of Leicestershire, has also announced his intention to retire at an early date. The last-named was one of the central figures in the famous "fight" in 1903.

Mr. Pemberton-Billing has commenced his campaign in East Herts as an independent candidate for the vacancy caused by the resignation of Sir John Rolleston. Mr. J. Brodie-Henderson, of Hemel Hempstead, is the official Unionist candidate. Mr. Pemberton-Billing maintains that he has only one plank in his platform, and that is the creation of an air service worthy of a great Empire. He says that this Government must be forced to employ the existing material both in *personnel* and *material*, and to initiate the strongest aggressive policy pending the development of the service. He offers, if East Herts elects him and he is given a fair chance to effect reforms, to guarantee that the Zeppelin raids over England will cease in a short time.

Group 1 under the Derby scheme is to be called up during the next few days. This means that young men of the age of nineteen will have to join the Colours. It is said that many of the young men in this group have reached the age of nineteen, and that those who have not will be allowed to return home until they do. It is generally recognised now that the exemptions by the tribunals have been too generous, and a committee is now engaged at the War Office in revising the list of reserved trades, and some deletions are certain.

The *Evening News*, which first called attention to the subject, understands that the Vaudeville Club will discuss to-morrow the attitude of the American variety booking agents towards English artists, many of whom are stranded in America as a result of the posting of the following notice:—

"To English artists. Your King and country need you. We don't."

A London variety agent told the *Evening News* to-day that the great slogan in American variety circles to-day is "nixy on the war stunt." "That means," he said, "nothing doing with anyone of a country at war. While the ranks of British artists have been seriously depleted by the war and their rally to the old flag, young Americans have come over here to take their places."

CAUCASUS.

THE FALL OF ERZERUM.

PURSUIT OF TURKISH ARMY.

GREAT CAPTURES OF MEN AND GUNS.

The Russian report from the Caucasus states that, following the fall of Erzerum, the remains of the 34th Turkish Division was pursued and captured, with their guns and a good deal of other material. During the assault on the fortress one of the Russian corps took 240 guns.

Russian troops have also carried the towns of Mush and Ahlat.

RUSSIAN REPORT.

(PRESS ASSOCIATION WAR SPECIAL.)
PETROGRAD, SATURDAY.

To-day's *communiqué* says:—

Pursuing the units of the Turkish Army, we turned and captured, north-east of Erzerum, the remains of the 34th Turkish Division, with thirteen guns, machine guns, cartridges, and shell caisson, and, in the region of Erzerum road, the remnant of a regiment. During the assault of Erzerum one of our brave corps captured 240 guns.

Our troops have carried by assault the towns of Mush and Ahlat. The enemy is in flight.

GREAT BOOTY.

The French *communiqué* issued in Paris on Saturday night says:—

The Russian Army of the Caucasus which captured Erzerum after a five days' assault found in the fortress great booty. Two hundred fortress and field guns, large quantities of ammunition and abundant supplies, without the hands of our Allies, who have not yet finished the registration of the material and prisoners taken.

HOW ERZERUM FELL.

AN ASSAULT WITHOUT RESPITE.

(PRESS ASSOCIATION WAR SPECIAL.)
PETROGRAD, FRIDAY.

The offensive against Erzerum was undertaken under the most difficult conditions. The Russian troops were forced to climb slopes, which were often very steep, in the midst of snowstorms, which were rendered more terrible by the temperature, which was often as low as 50 degrees of frost.

Several forts armed with heavy guns were taken almost without artillery preparation, as only mountain artillery could be transported across the almost impassable heights which the Russians had to traverse. The assault lasted for twenty-four hours, without any respite, and was pressed most fiercely during the night. On the morning of the 15th the Russians captured the first line centre forts. The Turks resisted with desperation, and replied by furious counter-attacks, but were completely repulsed in all points, and commenced first to withdraw and afterwards to flee.

Russian cavalry entered the town first, and was followed by the infantry. The town was taken almost intact, with the exception of a few Government buildings, which were burned.

IMPORTANCE OF THE CAPTURE.

In military circles the capture of Erzerum is regarded not merely as a strategic blow of the first order, but is considered important from other points of view, as it is the precursor to the complete destruction of five corps of the third Ottoman army, whose fighting value disappears with the fall of the fortress.

The strong reinforcements of two corps, which were hastening to Erzerum, will be useless, as they will arrive without artillery, this having been sent to Erzerum by sea, via Trebizond.

Military authorities explain the lack of details regarding the capture of Erzerum by the fact that the Russian Army is continuing a vigorous pursuit of the enemy, whose attempt to make a stand ten miles from the fortress has failed.

Bourse Gazette says that diplomatic circles in Petrograd attach enormous importance to the taking of Erzerum from the point of view of the consequence this may have on the Mesopotamian front, the situation in Mesopotamia, and generally in every part of the Southern theatre of war. At the same time diplomatists express astonishment at the reserve maintained by Russian opinion on the occasion of this victory, so rich in serious consequences for the enemy as well as at the calm with which Russia has received this exceptional event. They regard this reserve as a fresh proof of the firmness of soul of the Russian people, both in times of painful trials and in days of joyful happenings.

"OF CAPITAL IMPORTANCE."

GRAND DUKE'S OPINION.

(PRESS ASSOCIATION WAR SPECIAL.)
PARIS SATURDAY.

President Poincaré having telegraphed congratulations to the Grand Duke on the capture of Erzerum, the latter has replied as follows:—

Deeply touched by the congratulations which you have been kind enough to address to me, as well as the brave troops which I have the honour to command, on the occasion of the capture of Erzerum, which certainly is of capital importance for the successful issue of our joint efforts. I beg you, M. le President, to accept in my name and that of the valiant armies of the Caucasus our most sincere and cordial thanks.—(Signed),

GRAND DUKE NICHOLAS.

WESTERN FIELD OF WAR.

THE RAID ON BRITISH TRENCHES.

MINING AND BOMBING ACTIVITY.

ATTACK ON FRENCH AERODROME.

Sir Douglas Haig reported on Saturday night that the German raid into the British trenches early on the morning of 18th inst. resulted in seven men being killed and wounded on our side. A few prisoners were taken.

The French, near Hill 140, on Saturday, exploded a mine under a German salient, wrecking it. At other points in the line the French artillery heavily bombarded the enemy.

The Germans claim to have repulsed a British attack, destroyed portion of the French position on the Combres Height, penetrated the French line near Altkirch, and bombed a French aerodrome south-west of Poperinghe.

BRITISH REPORT.

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS IN FRANCE, SATURDAY, 9.12 P.M.

In the early morning of the 18th the Germans made a raid into our trenches near Gommecourt, capturing a few prisoners. Our casualties in killed and wounded were seven. Last night there was some artillery activity on both sides about Hooge. To-day we bombarded an enemy strong point near Le Touquet.

FRENCH REPORTS.

(PRESS ASSOCIATION WAR SPECIAL.)
PARIS, SATURDAY.

This afternoon's official *communiqué* says:—

In Artois the Germans at the end of the day yesterday attempted a small attack to the north of Blangy, which was easily repulsed.

11 P.M.

In Artois, north-west of Hill 140, we exploded a mine under a German salient, which was wrecked. Between the Oise and the Aisne our artillery caught under its fire an enemy infantry column north of Vic-sur-Aisne.

In Lorraine we bombarded the enemy establishment of Domevre. A fire was observed. In Upper Alsace our artillery was active against the German trenches to the east of Seppois and Largitzen.

GERMAN DESPATCH.

(PRESS ASSOCIATION WAR SPECIAL.)
AMSTERDAM, SATURDAY.

To-day's official German *communiqué* says:—

Again yesterday, south-east of Ypres, an English attack, prepared by strong artillery bombardment, failed in which full justice being rightly been done. After the fighting it was famine that we had to suffer in Albania. No stretch of the imagination can conceive it—no roads, no bridges, no rugged country, and gloomy wastes that our Army covered with its corpses. But one must dismiss these recollections, and live for the future and not for the past. What this Serbian soldier has done is a pledge of what he will do. Soon, when he has been rearmed, he will go to take his place at the side of his great and noble Allies. You may be sure he will do his duty, and more than his duty, for complete and definite victory. I want once more to express my sincere and deep gratitude to the Allies, who have helped us so generously to ensure the rapid and methodical evacuation of our army. Thanks to them we are going once more to fight, and—I do not hope, but I am sure—we are going to win."

ATTACK ON ITALY IN THE GREEK PARLIAMENT.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
ATHENS, FEB. 17.

In the official report of yesterday's sitting of the Chamber of Deputies, a protest by the President against a violent attack by the member for Corfu, M. Sokolis, regarding the presence of Italians in Corfu was omitted. The President said, interrupting M. Sokolis, said—"You cannot speak with such violence of a friendly nation and its King. I beg you to retract all that you have said against the people and the King of Italy. If it were necessary to take definite measures for Corfu or any part of Greek territory, be assured that the whole nation would take them."

At to-day's sitting the omission was corrected, and the protest of the President was inserted in the report of the proceedings of the House.

SERBIA AND BULGARIA.

FABRICATED CORRESPONDENCE.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
PETROGRAD, FEB. 19.

The following official announcement is issued here:—

"On January 31st the *Voessische Zeitung* reproduced from the Sofia newspapers the text of an alleged correspondence between M. Pasitch and M. Spalaikovitch in August last regarding territorial concessions to Bulgaria. The Serbian Minister here declares that the correspondence has been fabricated by the Bulgarians, and he challenges the Bulgarians to publish, in facsimile, the documents which they say they have in their possession."

THE ARREST OF ENEMY CONSULS.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
ATHENS, THURSDAY.

The German Minister conferred with the Greek Premier to-day on the subject of the arrest of enemy consuls in Scio. Another Greek protest is forthcoming.

THE STRUMNITZA AIR RAID.

(PRESS ASSOCIATION WAR SPECIAL.)
PARIS, SATURDAY.

The *Petit Parisien's* special correspondent at Salonika, telegraphing under yesterday's date, gives the following account of the French air raid on Strumnitza on the 17th inst.:—

At 11 o'clock yesterday morning sixteen French aeroplanes bombarded Strumnitza railway station, where German reinforcements had just arrived. They dropped 165 bombs of heavy calibre, several of them incendiary. According to an official account, borne out by photographs, which the General Staff received this evening, the results of the bombardment were considerable.

Some German Albatross machines tried to cut the French squadron off on its way back, but our aviators, rising to an altitude of 3,000 metres, gave the enemy the slip. One of our airmen, Bombardier Baud, was slightly wounded in the left hand. The whole squadron got back unharmed.

BALKAN WAR THEATRE.

NEW MOVE BY ALLIED TROOPS.

ANOTHER GREEK ISLAND OCCUPIED.

The Greek Ministry of the Interior announces that an Allied detachment has occupied the Greek island of Othonus.

Prince Alexander of Serbia, in an interview with the correspondent of a Paris newspaper, says that the Serbian Army is about to take its place at the side of the Allies, and he is sure that this time they are going to win.

(PRESS ASSOCIATION WAR SPECIAL.)
ATHENS, THURSDAY.

The Ministry of the Interior announced this evening that an Allied detachment had occupied Othonus, an islet near Corfu.

The reason for the occupation is not known.

ALLIES AT SALONIKA.

NO ATTACK ANTICIPATED.

(PRESS ASSOCIATION WAR SPECIAL.)
PARIS, SATURDAY.

The special correspondent of the *Journal* at Salonika telegraphs under date 17th:—Colonel Mossala, of the Greek Staff, today visited the greater part of the defensive front organised around Salonika, which we are improving and extending a little each day. To-morrow General Sarrail will inspect the whole of our works, in company with the Greek Generals, Moschopoulos and Zimbrakis, and their Chiefs of Staff. It begins to become probable these commanding fortifications will not be used. Every day the probability of an enemy offensive decreases. At present Serbian Macedonia, notably the region of Monastir, is covered with thick snow.

Provisioning in these regions is encountering enormous difficulties, and still more so the transport of abundant heavy artillery, without the aid of which an attack upon Salonika could be only a sanguinary pleasantry. There are serious reasons for thinking that the enemy meditates a fresh aerial bombardment of great proportions upon the town.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE.

PRINCE ALEXANDER AND THE SERBIAN ARMY.

(PRESS ASSOCIATION WAR SPECIAL.)
PARIS, SATURDAY.

The special correspondent of the *Petit Parisien* at Corfu has been received by Prince Alexander of Serbia, who said:—"I have come to Corfu, following the destinies of my troops, who have almost all of them arrived. The small number that still remains in Albania will not be long in joining the main body.

"Perhaps people do not realise what our retreat was. Attacked by three enemies numerically superior, powerfully by heavy artillery stronger than ours, we had to fall back, fighting on two fronts at the same time. Our troops during this retreat showed an endurance and heroism which will justice being rightly been done. After the fighting it was famine that we had to suffer in Albania. No stretch of the imagination can conceive it—no roads, no bridges, no rugged country, and gloomy wastes that our Army covered with its corpses. But one must dismiss these recollections, and live for the future and not for the past. What this Serbian soldier has done is a pledge of what he will do. Soon, when he has been rearmed, he will go to take his place at the side of his great and noble Allies. You may be sure he will do his duty, and more than his duty, for complete and definite victory. I want once more to express my sincere and deep gratitude to the Allies, who have helped us so generously to ensure the rapid and methodical evacuation of our army. Thanks to them we are going once more to fight, and—I do not hope, but I am sure—we are going to win."

ATTACK ON ITALY IN THE GREEK PARLIAMENT.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
ATHENS, FEB. 17.

In the official report of yesterday's sitting of the Chamber of Deputies, a protest by the President against a violent attack by the member for Corfu, M. Sokolis, regarding the presence of Italians in Corfu was omitted. The President said, interrupting M. Sokolis, said—"You cannot speak with such violence of a friendly nation and its King. I beg you to retract all that you have said against the people and the King of Italy. If it were necessary to take definite measures for Corfu or any part of Greek territory, be assured that the whole nation would take them."

At to-day's sitting the omission was corrected, and the protest of the President was inserted in the report of the proceedings of the House.

SERBIA AND BULGARIA.

FABRICATED CORRESPONDENCE.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
PETROGRAD, FEB. 19.

The following official announcement is issued here:—

"On January 31st the *Voessische Zeitung* reproduced from the Sofia newspapers the text of an alleged correspondence between M. Pasitch and M. Spalaikovitch in August last regarding territorial concessions to Bulgaria. The Serbian Minister here declares that the correspondence has been fabricated by the Bulgarians, and he challenges the Bulgarians to publish, in facsimile, the documents which they say they have in their possession."

THE ARREST OF ENEMY CONSULS.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
ATHENS, THURSDAY.

The German Minister conferred with the Greek Premier to-day on the subject of the arrest of enemy consuls in Scio. Another Greek protest is forthcoming.

THE STRUMNITZA AIR RAID.

(PRESS ASSOCIATION WAR SPECIAL.)
PARIS, SATURDAY.

The *Petit Parisien's* special correspondent at Salonika, telegraphing under yesterday's date, gives the following account of the French air raid on Strumnitza on the 17th inst.:—

At 11 o'clock yesterday morning sixteen French aeroplanes bombarded Strumnitza railway station, where German reinforcements had just arrived. They dropped 165 bombs of heavy calibre, several of them incendiary. According to an official account, borne out by photographs, which the General Staff received this evening, the results of the bombardment were considerable.

Some German Albatross machines tried to cut the French squadron off on its way back, but our aviators, rising to an altitude of 3,000 metres, gave the enemy the slip. One of our airmen, Bombardier Baud, was slightly wounded in the left hand. The whole squadron got back unharmed.

CONQUEST OF THE CAMEROONS.

MR. BONAR LAW'S MESSAGE.

The Secretary of State for the Colonies forwards the following for publication:—

A telegram was received from the Governor-General of Nigeria on February 18 reporting that the German garrison at Mora, in the north of the Cameroons, had capitulated.

This completes the conquest of the Cameroons by the Allied forces, and Mr. Bonar Law has telegraphed his warm congratulations to Major-General Dobell, to Brigadier-General Cunliffe, and to the forces under their respective commands.

GERMANY'S LOST COLONIES.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
STOCKHOLM, SATURDAY.

Commenting on news of the final conquest of the Cameroons by the Anglo-French forces, the *Dagens Nyheter*, after remarking that German East Africa, is now the sole remnant of German Colonial Empire, and that fighting is now going on there, says: In each news of the loss of a colony, the Germans are always ready to repeat that the question of the Colonial Empires of the belligerents will be decided on the European battlefields. It is, nevertheless, evident that at the conclusion of peace the possession of these enormous German territories, three times greater in area than the whole of Germany, will constitute for the *Entente* a most valuable object of exchange.

DUTCH VOLUNTEERS FOR EAST AFRICA.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
CAPE TOWN, FRIDAY.

A number of Dutch volunteers are coming forward in the Potchefstroom district to join the second mounted brigade under General Brits, for service in the campaign against German East Africa. Most of them have already served under the British in German South-West Africa.

BIG PURCHASE OF AUSTRALIAN WHEAT.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
MELBOURNE, FEB. 18.

The *Age* says:—Irrespective of the Imperial Government's purchase of 200,000 tons of Australian wheat, it is understood that negotiations have been completed by which the Allies' International Food Purchase Commission is making unlimited purchases, and will possibly take the whole exportable surplus.

GREECE AND FRANCE.

MISCONCEPTIONS EXPLAINED.

PRINCE NICHOLAS OF GREECE'S FRANK LETTER.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)
PARIS, SATURDAY.

The *Temps* publishes a long letter addressed to it by Prince Nicholas of Greece, brother of King Constantine, with the object of dissipating, by a clear and sincere explanation, all misconceptions existing in France as regards Greece's policy. The Prince recalls the fact that while Greece has remained neutral, she has never declared that she would not at any price depart from her neutrality.

The contrary is proved, he asserts, by several proposals made during the war to the *Entente* Powers, proposals well known to Chancelleries of Europe. It is wrong to say, he continues, that Greece put forward exaggerated claims as the price of her co-operation. M. Gounaris, the former Premier, only asked that the territorial integrity of the kingdom should be respected during the war and until peace was concluded by those same Powers, on the side of whom Greece declared herself ready to fight.

But this condition was not accepted, such a promise being considered at the time as likely to alienate Bulgaria. It was, therefore, not Greece's fault that the negotiations failed. The country consequently has remained neutral, despite various appeals of the two opposing groups of Powers; but, as the correspondent of one of the big English newspapers has pointed out in Greece there exist only two currents of opinion, the one anxious to enter the struggle on the side of the *Entente*; the other in favour of neutrality. No one in Greece has ever expressed the opinion that the country should take part in the war on the side of the Central Empires. As a matter of fact, Greek neutrality has been, and is, very benevolent towards the *Entente*, which has derived very valuable advantages from this benevolence.

Prince Nicholas then refers to Greece's engagements to Serbia, and attempts to prove, by the arguments already so often put forward, that the Greco-Serb Treaty was exclusively a Balkan one, and had no application in the event of a European war; that neither Serbia nor the Powers of the *Entente* were able to supply 150,000 men, which it was provided in the treaty were to be put into the field against Bulgaria, and that the intervention of the Greek Army would consequently simply have ended in the crushing of Greece, which would have still further endangered the balance of power in the Balkans.

The Prince goes on to say that he does not wish to speak of the humiliations inflicted upon Greece, nor of the harm which has been done her; but he energetically protests against doubts which the Anglo-French Press has cast upon the good faith and sincerity of the King and the Greek Government, and upon the feelings of the Greek people towards Allied troops. These suspicions, he says, are unjust and very painful to Greece, and might have had an influence on the sincere friendship which the Greek people and its King wish always to preserve for the nations which assisted in the regeneration of Greece, and to whom alone Greece wishes a prosperous and glorious future.

The *Temps*, commenting on this letter, makes certain reservations on some points of the argument, but praises the frankness and frameness of the Prince's statement, which, it says, charms by the sincere and cordial tone of its friendly explanations, and will strengthen the mutual confidence of France and Greece.

EASTERN FIELD OF WAR.

ARTILLERY AND RIFLE DUELS.

RUSSIAN REPORT.

(PRESS ASSOCIATION WAR SPECIAL)
PETROGRAD, SATURDAY.

To-day's *communiqué* says:—Western Front—Our heavy artillery forced a captive balloon which was ascending near Yezerna, north-west of Tarnopol, to descend. On the rest of the front there were the usual artillery and rifle duels and skirmishes between scouts.

GERMAN REPORT.

The Germans, in their report issued on Saturday night, state that there have been no important events in the Eastern theatre of war.

FUNERAL OF LADY IVEAGH.

The remains of Lady Iveagh were interred in the family vault at Elveden Churchyard, Suffolk, on Saturday. The coffin, which was covered with beautiful white flowers, was conveyed to the church from the Hall on a farm wagon. The heads of the estate departments acted as bearers. The remains were enclosed in a leaden shell and a plain mahogany coffin with polished fittings of bronze in mediæval design. The inscription was—"Adelaide Mary, wife of Edward Cecil Viscount Iveagh, born 18th June, 1844; died 16th February, 1916."

The Service was choral. The officiating clergy were:—The Rev. C. J. P. Blindell, Rector of Elveden; the Bishop of Tuam, and the Rev. E. W. Cockell, of Riswell.

The chief mourners were:—Viscount Iveagh, the Hon. Rupert and Lady Gwendolen Guinness, the Hon. Ernest and Mrs. Guinness, Lady Evelyn Guinness, Lord Plunket, Sir Algernon Guinness, Mr. K. Guinness, Lord Rossmore, Mrs. Kerr Pearse, Mrs. Reeve, Colonel Addison, R.E.; Mr. Owen Clarke (Mayor of Bury St. Edmunds), Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Bland, Mr. H. Thompson, and Dr. Gelston.

There was a large gathering of the household and estate staff and tenantry.

FUNERAL OF LORD RIDLEY.

TELEGRAM FROM THE KING AND QUEEN.

A Service in memory of Lord Ridley was held at St. Margaret's Church, Westminster, at noon on Saturday. The congregation included the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, Mr. Bonar Law, Mr. Austen Chamberlain, and the Speaker of the House of Commons.

The funeral took place to Stannington, Northumberland. The ceremony was of a military character. Lady Ridley and other members of the family were the chief mourners. The new viscount was absent through a chill. A message of sympathy was received from the King and Queen.

A Memorial Service was also held in Newcastle Cathedral.

THE ORDER OF THE CROWN.

LORD MAYOR OF LONDON AND THE KAISER.

The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of London were entertained at the London Press Club on Saturday afternoon at a tea and concert.

The Lord Mayor in a speech said that he once dined with the Kaiser. It was at the Mansion House in 1907, and on that occasion the Kaiser put something round his neck. (Laughter.) He wished he had the opportunity of returning the compliment now, and he would ask the ladies to pull it tight. (Laughter.) The gift which the Kaiser made him was the Order of the Crown. He thought at the time it was a very pretty decoration, but in recent times he had seen his terrier playing with the ribbons. (Laughter.) He really did not know now what had become of the Order of the Crown. (Laughter.)

AFTER THE WAR.

FRONTIER TOWNS OF THE FUTURE.

INVISIBLE FORTIFICATIONS AND STREET TRENCHES.

The following despatch has been received from Mr. H. Warner Allen, a special correspondent of the British Press with the French Army:—

After visiting towns and villages of the existing temporary French frontier, one is prone to raise the question: What will be the land defences of a Continental Power after the present war? Perhaps it would be better to express this question in different terms: if there is a school of opinion which holds that after the Armageddon of this war every country will need to defend itself, then there may ask the same question in different terms—What would have been the [illegible] ance and organisation of a [illegible] town or village before the war [illegible] authorities had realised all the [illegible] that science and modern [illegible] troduced into the art of war.

Now, after eighteen months [illegible] reasonable to suppose that [illegible] villages in the firing line [illegible] and organised in not [illegible] would have been if it had [illegible] comprehend beforehand [illegible] explosives and the [illegible] machine gun, barbed wire [illegible] one essential of modern [illegible] visibility. In the past [illegible] frontier was defended [illegible] fortresses. Their [illegible] marked on every map [illegible] heavy guns, the positions [illegible] early undetermined [illegible] them with the [illegible] fortresses consisted [illegible] miles away from the [illegible] tween such fortresses [illegible] held by trenches and [illegible] the forts. As to the [illegible] matter is still contentious [illegible] general idea is that [illegible] of modern artillery direction [illegible] naissances, a gun is probably [illegible] destructive in a well-[illegible] outside a fort than [illegible] itself, under many feet of [illegible] and several inches of armour.

THE MODERN TRENCH.

In time of peace the [illegible] for the exigencies of modern [illegible] undoubtedly show for [illegible] fortifications than the [illegible] Middle Ages. Presumably [illegible] need to have permanent [illegible] barricades in the streets [illegible] to-day are anywhere within [illegible] line on the front that [illegible] Sea to Switzerland. [illegible] military authorities would [illegible] ready to prepare these [illegible] slightest alarm. The [illegible] in a complicated system [illegible] would probably demand [illegible] expense to construct and [illegible] more powerful of modern [illegible]

A tourist in some sleepy [illegible] would turn aside down a [illegible] just as he was reaching [illegible] would be held up by a [illegible] was a privileged person [illegible] to go on. And then, a [illegible] the last house, he would [illegible] had been converted into a [illegible] would deepen rapidly [illegible] eight feet below the surface [illegible] begin to branch out in all [illegible] would be trenches running [illegible] hill from which a view [illegible] other trenches running [illegible] shelters, and still others leading [illegible] dug bomb-proof shelters, [illegible] and armoured like a [illegible] bable enough that those [illegible] defended by square miles [illegible] Along them all there would [illegible] wires, linking together [illegible] ing the observation posts [illegible] broken communication with [illegible] the rear.

Experience has shown that [illegible] rules of ancient tactics. It is one [illegible] of a hill that barbed wire entanglements [illegible] trenches are most difficult [illegible] artillery preparation, which is [illegible] precursor of an assault, can [illegible] effect on the receding slopes of a hill [illegible] crest itself is a dangerous point, since [illegible] be swept by the enemy's artillery. [illegible] use is for the observation posts that [illegible] established there, each of which is [illegible] with the lines lower down the [illegible] with a narrow trench.

PRIVATE PROPERTY.

Private property is likely to suffer [illegible] little from the exigencies of modern [illegible] The Army of the present moment [illegible] run through the middle of houses, [illegible] in the middle of flower gardens, and devastate magnificent parks. After the war, [illegible] the private owner will find himself [illegible] changed conditions, and may be skilful [illegible] to convert a network of trenches into [illegible] artistic part of his domain. At any rate [illegible] seem to be that, in addition to the houses above ground, there [illegible] be a veritable rabbit warren, a kind [illegible] terranean suburb, below.

The rich man, presumably, will have [illegible] bomb-proof house. His cellars [illegible] ganised to provide the maximum of [illegible] will be provided with exits that will [illegible] means of escape even if the whole house [illegible] collapsed upon them. For the poorer [illegible] there will be public bomb-proof shelters [illegible] as have been provided at Arras [illegible] In times of bombardment they [illegible] leave their houses as they do now [illegible] main underground until the bombardment has ceased.

GAS, LIGHT, AND ZEPPELINS.

There will be the most [illegible] parations to defeat asphyxiating gas attacks. Arrangements for lighting [illegible] gas upwards would be kept permanently ready. All that would be [illegible] to press a button, and the warning would be given all along the line that there was [illegible] of gas. Every man would [illegible] mask.

After the Zeppelin raids [illegible] that one of the essential problems [illegible] struction of cities, even [illegible] would be an arrangement for [illegible] extinction of all lights in the [illegible] It is hardly likely that, in the future even in time of war, the average citizen will accept the idea of being cast into more or less permanent darkness because there is a possible danger of an air attack, and [illegible] cilors will have to find some way of [illegible] that the streets shall be lighted until warning of an aerial raid is given. In the present war the number of accidents and disasters [illegible] the insufficient lighting of the streets must be very nearly equal to that of the victims of the aerial raids.

A TERRIBLE BURDEN.

Certainly, if, after the present war, Continental nations are to live in imminent fear of attack from a neighbour, permanent scientific preparation of trenches and the [illegible] necessary to protect a frontier will be a terrible burden on the country. Moreover, if scientific invention is going to keep up the present rate of progress, there seems every reason to suppose that all these preparations will be out of date in a year or two, and that as soon as they are put to the test of

FROM TO-DAY'S LONDON PAPERS.

THE NEW OUTLOOK.

Unless present signs should be belied by some incalculable disaster, the Allies ought to come within the next four months to the purging point of the struggle, writes Mr. J. L. Garvin in the *Observer*. The moral effect of the renewed pledge to Belgium is nearly as important as the magnificent stroke in Armenia. More important than either is the fair certainty that by the end of next autumn, if not by summer, the enemy Empires will be permanently outnumbered and outmanoeuvred to the extent required for the new convergence of the Allies upon their central objective, and for their progressive advance, stage by stage, to the final grapple. The assurance of complete victory will be visibly in our hands this year if the Allied Governments are competent. That is why it is more necessary than ever to urge them on in order that they may grasp every opportunity in the coming campaign and avoid any repetition of the mismanagement which would again throw back our prospects.

LORD BERESFORD'S SPEECH.

It is understood, says the writer of Secret History in *Reynolds's Newspaper*, that Lord Charles Beresford will make his maiden speech in the House of Lords on Tuesday on the blockade question. He is expected to follow Lord Sydenham, who introduces the matter in the form of a motion. There is likely to be some straight speaking.

KEEPING THE FLAG FLYING.

It is a time-honoured principle of the Constitution that when Parliament is sitting an enormous Union Jack, nearly twenty feet long, should be flown from the Victorian Tower, writes the political representative of the *Weekly Dispatch*. During last Wednesday's gale six of these flags were successively blown away, but the seventh was promptly hoisted just before dusk. Thus traditional observance was maintained, and members who are sticklers for this kind of thing were not horrified by the sight of a flagless tower. It is an open question whether the effectiveness of debate would be influenced at all if this flag-waving custom were abandoned, at least until the war was over, and we had plenty of money again to spare on flags and other gear.

WHAT A BOMB DID.

I am told that Prince George of Wales, who is at school at Broadstairs, enjoys the privilege at Sunday Service of extinguishing the lectern light before the Service starts, says a writer in the *Weekly Dispatch*. But last Sunday he changed his seat with another boy in order that he might look out of the window at "the bombed school," which is quite near.

IS IT TRUE?

It is understood that the inventor of the Fokker aeroplane, which has been doing such big service for the Germans, offered his invention, not only once, but twice, to the British War Office, only to meet with refusal, says *Reynolds's Newspaper*. Small wonder that, after being so discouraged, he offered it the third time to the Germans, who immediately accepted it. Mr. Fokker is a Dutchman.

THE COMING BUDGET.

New taxes of a outrageous order will figure in the coming Budget, imposing upon the community the necessity of saving up to a certain point whether they like it or not, says the *News of the World*. Taxation, however, can never provide more than a drop in the mighty ocean of gold required to wage war at the rate of five millions a day. The huge balances will have to be made good by the maintenance of our credit. The wealth of this country is enormously greater than that of its enemies. But the demands upon our resources are also enormously greater. It is up to every man, woman, and child in the community to take this truth to heart and act upon it. For nations, any more than for individuals, there is no magic by which cobble-stones can be turned into gold nuggets. To have the gold we must work and save and stint ourselves. And that is what Britain expects to-day from those who cannot offer her their blood in this supreme emergency.

HOW THE KAISERIN HAS CHANGED.

The following is extracted from Gossip of the Day in this week's issue of the *News of the World*:—If you saw the Kaiserin now you would not recognise her, says an American in Berlin, in a letter to a friend in London. She is a haggard, nervous, old woman now; her head shakes. Since the day when her guards so cruelly abused the poor woman who clung to her carriage, crying—"Give us back our dead" she has rarely been seen in public.

SIR EDWARD CARSON'S CONDITION.

The new Opposition is unfortunate in the health of some of its best men, says the political representative of the *Weekly Dispatch*. While Sir Edward Carson is progressing very favourably, indeed, he is not yet in the fighting ranks for some little time yet. Sir Arthur Markham, who has been suffering from a heart affection, due to overwork, is now up, but will not be back in the House at the earliest for several weeks.

CHANGES AFTER THE WAR.

STATE CONTROL OF INDUSTRY.

At Cambridge on Saturday Mr. E. S. Montagu, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, alluding to the Military Service Act, said: Without it we could not have the armies necessary to defeat Germany, but Liberals would never tolerate Conscription as a permanent part of our institutions. The sacrifices which were made on the Government by some cases sprang not from courage, but from cowardice. There was generally an answer to them, but it could not be given by the Government without assisting our enemies. He indicated that after the war we might have to change the fiscal system, and also our opinions respecting the State control of industry.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

ANOTHER M.P. RESIGNS.

At the annual meeting of the Harborough Division Liberal Association on Saturday, a letter was received from Mr. John W. Logan intimating his intention to apply for the Chiltern Hundreds.

EAST HERTS VACANCY.

Mr. Pemberton Billing opened his campaign in East Herts on Saturday at Hertford by addressing a largely-attended meeting. He said that if the Government once took the air service seriously in hand, in six months we should be supreme in the air. He was convinced that the country that took up the question of air service and developed it would be in a position to dictate to the world.

BIGAMOUS SOLDIER PARDONED.

Sergeant W. Smith, of the East Surrey Regiment, who on October 13th last was sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment with hard labour for having bigamously married a girl in Jersey, his wife being at the time alive, and with having thus infringed the law as to births, marriages, and deaths, has been granted the King's pardon. He is to rejoin his regiment.

LATEST NEWS.

GERMAN PAMPHLETS SEIZED.

FABLE OF THE STUFFED LION.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

AMSTERDAM, SATURDAY.

It is stated on good authority that in a consignment of American tobacco which recently reached Rotterdam an interesting discovery was made consisting of pro-German pamphlets and letters to addresses in Germany. One of the pamphlets in English and German was entitled "Fable of the Stuffed Lion," and contained caricatures of Great Britain and of the Allies. It is understood that the cargo will now be sent to England for a Prize Court to deal with.

CHARGE AGAINST TRADE UNION OFFICIAL.

ALLEGED INTERFERENCE WITH GOVERNMENT WORK.

Great public interest was displayed at Bow street, London, on Saturday in a case against a trade union official for alleged attempted interference with the output of munitions. The defendant was Tom Rees, of 125 Parkdale road, Plumstead, and the summons, issued at the instance of the Director of Public Prosecutions, alleged that he, within a period of six months immediately preceding the 11th February, 1916, within the Metropolitan Police District, did unlawfully, and contrary to the Defence of the Realm Consolidation Regulations, 1914, attempt to impede and delay the production of war material.

The proceedings are regarded as being of great importance. The defendant is a well-known trade unionist, holding the position of Secretary of the London District of the Amalgamated Society of Engineers.

Prior to the opening of the case the magistrate held a private consultation with the prosecution and the defence. The defendant attended the conference, to which several other trade unionists in court were afterwards invited.

Mr. Bodkin, in opening the case for the Ministry of Munitions, explained that the defendant was a whole-time official of the union, and undoubtedly was a person of influence with his fellow-members. The works in question were of an important character, and had been going continuously day and night on Government work. There was a great quantity of machinery on the premises, operated by unskilled persons, many of them. It was the defendant's attitude respecting pay rates for night work which brought him within the regulations. There was in connection with the matter an industrial dispute, and Mr. Rees was there for putting what the prosecution said was unlawful pressure on the men willingly and patriotically working to cause them to cease work.

The hearing was adjourned for a fortnight.

SIR CHARLES NICHOLSON AND ZEPPELINS.

Speaking at the annual meeting on Saturday night of the Doncaster Liberal Association, Sir Charles Nicholson, M.P., referred to the demand in some quarters for reprisals against Germany arising out of Zeppelin raids. Whatever we did, he hoped we would not be guilty of the barbarism Germans practised. He had come to the conclusion that guns were not much use against Zeppelins, which must be met in the air.

BISHOP OF LICHFIELD ON REPRISALS.

In an address issued to the Diocese of Lichfield on Saturday, Bishop Kempthorne, after describing the recent air raid on the Midlands, says:—Some people are advocating what they call reprisals. They desire that our airmen should be ordered deliberately to seek out unarmed people and to drop bombs on them. We rightly speak of the Zeppelin achievement as the murder of women and children by Germany. "I do not believe," says the Bishop, "that those among us who have suffered the severest loss would for one moment desire anything of the kind. We are told that by such methods we shall be saving our own women and children. If this be true, I believe our women and children would count it an insult that we should protect them by such hateful means; but it is not true. We shall not beat the Germans at the game of reprisals. We can beat them on the sea. Our skill and courage our airmen are superior to theirs. In due time our airmen will defeat them on land; but we cannot beat them in this business of assaults on the defenceless. By all means let us do our best to smash the Zeppelin sheds and the Zeppelins themselves. "Let us drop bombs on Essen and other arsenals," the Bishop proceeds to say; "let us punish, if we can, those who are guilty of murder; but do not let us disgrace ourselves by asking our brave airmen to slaughter babies. Let us not befoul a just and righteous cause, and let our swords be clean from dishonour."

BLOWN TO PIECES BY A ZEPPELIN BOMB.

The sister of a farmer in Lincolnshire found on Sunday an article which she thought was a radiator fan from a motor car. She took it home, and on Friday, while turning round the propeller, her brother, aged 28, was blown to pieces by the detonator from a Zeppelin bomb. The sister was injured in the leg, but another youth in the room was uninjured.

SHIPOWNERS' PROFITS.

The annual report of the Moor Line Steamships, Ltd., of Newcastle-on-Tyne, states that the profits on completed voyages made by the company's fleet amount to £373,348. The Spennymoor, the Tullochmoor, the Inglemoor, the Linkmoor, and the Glenmoor were sunk by German submarines. The hire paid by the Government for vessels is approximately equivalent to one-third or one-fourth of freight obtainable in open market. The Chirn Line of Steamships, Newcastle, reports a profit of £162,689.

CANADA AND AUSTRALIAN PRIME MINISTER.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

OTTAWA, FRIDAY.

Mr. Hughes, Prime Minister of Australia, was to-day sworn member of the Privy Council. Afterwards he attended a meeting of the Cabinet, at which Imperial affairs were discussed. The event is unique and unparalleled in the history of Canada.

LOST NORWEGIAN STEAMER.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

CHRISTIANIA, SATURDAY.

The German Foreign Office has informed the Norwegian Minister in Berlin that the investigation into the loss of the Norwegian steamer Benhaour at the beginning of January proves that the submarine which sunk the ship was not a German vessel.

RECRUITING OF FISHERMEN.

A notice issued on Saturday night by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries sets forth that fishermen are regarded as a reserve for the Navy, and are not liable for service in the Army unless it should be decided at some future time that they are more urgently needed for that service. Fishermen (sea fishing) are included among the certified occupations exempted from the provisions of the Military Service Act, but as regards service in the Army only.

SOUTHERN FIELD OF WAR.

BIG ITALIAN AIR RAID.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

ROME, SATURDAY.

To-day's official communiqué says:—There have been artillery engagements at various points of the front, and reprisals of fire against inhabited districts.

In reply to the numerous violations of international law persistently made by the enemy since the beginning of the war, yesterday morning a squadron of our Caproni machines made a raid on Ljubljana. During the whole of their journey they were subjected to the fire of numerous anti-aircraft batteries and attacked by enemy aeroplanes, but, nevertheless, our brave aviators succeeded in attaining their object. Dropping from the clouds to a lower altitude when they got over the town, they dropped [illegible] dozens of grenade mines and bombs. One of our machines being attacked and surrounded by six Austrian machines, was forced to land in enemy territory. The other machines returned safely to our lines. [Ljubljana is the Slavonic name for Laibach, the capital of Carniola, a town with about forty thousand inhabitants].

FIRE AT GENOA PORT.

TWO FOREIGNERS ARRESTED.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

ROME, SATURDAY.

A serious fire occurred last night at the port of Genoa. It started among some stores of coal and tallow recently unloaded from a neighbouring ship. The flames assumed alarming proportions, and spread to the English ship Llanishen and some Italian ships close by. The firemen towed the Llanishen outside the dock. Soldiers and police were called upon to assist the firemen in extinguishing the flames, and the fire was ultimately confined to the limits of the dock, and at the hour of telegraphing it was hoped it would be got under control in a few hours. Two suspicious-looking foreigners have been arrested on a charge of causing the fire.

LIFE IN AUSTRIA.

ENGLISH GOVERNESS'S REVELATIONS.

FEAR OF GERMAN DESIGNS.

Miss Wailes, a Tyneside lady, who has been for over four years governess in Vienna has just returned home. She describes Austrians as kind-hearted, lovable, easy-going people, who before the war had great respect for England and the English, but says they are embittered now, because they believe England caused the war for commercial reasons, and that but for England the world would have resulted long ago in victory for the Central Powers. Moreover, they believe that but for England other neutrals would be willing to make peace. After the murder of the Austrian Archduke there was a burst of enthusiasm for the prosecution of Serbia, and the feeling revived when Russia interfered. The Italians, it is declared, hated Austria. There is ample evidence, Miss Wailes says, that Austrians do not like the Germans, and fear is expressed of German designs with regard to Austria. The Austrians admire the German Army, and are impressed by German national organisation. All victories gained by the Central Powers are credited by Austrians to German soldiers. On the other hand, the Germans never utter a word of praise for Austrian soldiers, who have been on all fronts, even in France, fighting alongside Germans.

When leaving Vienna Miss Wailes was asked by some Austrians to tell the people of England that the Austrians are happy and fat, and to give their love to Sir Edward Grey, and ask him to make peace. English residents in Vienna, says Miss Wailes, have been well treated during the war, and went about freely. Vienna is gay and bright, but almost every man is wearing a uniform, and there are many wounded soldiers. Men up to 55 years have been called up. The German influence in Vienna, she says, is considerable, and as a result of this the Austrians now refer to the English as barbarians. They rejoice when Zeppelins visit England, and believe firmly that the British Navy is in hiding. There is much anxiety as to the future of the co-[illegible] arising out of the Emperor's state of health.

FLOODS IN HOLLAND.

WATERS FALLING.

WOMEN DROWNED AND HOUSES DESTROYED.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

AMSTERDAM, SATURDAY.

The latest reports regarding the floods cause considerable relief. At Buiksloot the water in the North Holland Canal has fallen ten inches since yesterday. This morning, however, it began to rise slightly. The tramcars from Amsterdam only go as far as Nieuwendam, so as not to endanger the dyke. At Wormerveer the level of the Zaan has fallen 2½ inches as compared with yesterday, and the situation is no longer that of imminent danger.

At Krommenie the water has already begun to cease through the emergency dam, but the level is now falling. The Dyke Guard and volunteers are working desperately. Many inhabitants have removed their property to the attics of their houses. At Zaandam the water fell fourteen inches during the night, but this morning is rising again.

Although the water fell at Kleinoelmis, that place is still almost isolated, the only communication being by means of boats. It appears that some women have been drowned here, but their bodies have not yet been recovered. At Volendam the back walls of seventeen houses have collapsed, and one newly-built house has been destroyed.

GERMANY'S INDUSTRIAL SITUATION.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM.)

AMSTERDAM, FRIDAY.

According to a Berlin telegram the Prussian Diet to-day discussed the industrial situation in Germany. All the speakers dwelt on the way in which industry, supported by technical science, had at once entered the service of the Fatherland. Industry, they said, had proved the strongest pillar of the Empire. Substitutes had been found for such raw material as were lacking, and German scientists, urged on by the necessity of the times, were making Germany independent of foreign countries. Great Britain, they declared, would never succeed in eliminating Germany from the markets of the world, because the world would always buy where the goods were the best and cheapest. A Socialist, Herr Hue, remarked that German industry had sufficient supplies of coal and ores. The conditions of the coke and steel markets were excellent, and no scarcity of raw material need be apprehended. Great Britain has made a mistake, he declared, in thinking we could be forced to stop the war owing to the lack of raw materials. As the representative of the workers in the mining industry, Herr Hue laid special stress on the fact that if Germany were to lose Alsace-Lorraine it would be practically a death-blow to Germany's iron mining industry.

COMMERCE AFTER THE WAR.

Speakers of all parties declared that Germany's commerce was struggling upwards. They said that Germany's enemies were attempting the destruction of German commerce, and were ascertaining for reasons connected with the war that it could never revive; but the speakers said that German commerce will regain its place in the world. Our circulation of money has not been disturbed, and our stock of gold has been almost doubled during the war. The position of the Reichsbank is better than that of enemy banks. Loans have been splendidly disposed of. The unrivalled capacity of the German merchant will regain its reputation after the war.

FATAL MOTOR ACCIDENT IN DUBLIN.

EVIDENCE AT THE INQUEST.

MR. BLAYNEY EXONERATED.

An inquest was held in St. Vincent's Hospital, Dublin, on Saturday on Edmond Walter Hyder, aged 19, an engineering student, of Audley House, Highfield road, Rathgar, who was accidentally killed by being knocked down by a motor car, driven by Surgeon Blayney, while cycling in Leinster street the previous day. Mr. J. H. M'Loughlin represented Surgeon Blayney, and Inspector Willoughby appeared on behalf of the police.

Evidence of identification was given by Mr. Charles J. Hyder, father of the deceased.

Christopher Doyle stated that about 9 o'clock the previous morning he was coming out of the Kildare street Club, when he saw a man riding down Kildare street on the left hand side, and was turning into Leinster street when a motor car came from the direction of Merrion square. The cyclist turned out, and the motor driver turned in to his left to avoid him, but the motor car struck him and dragged him some distance. The motor car then struck the window of Messrs. Sharpley's shop.

Dr. King, house surgeon, St. Vincent's Hospital, said that death, which was instantaneous, was due to heart rupture.

Inspector Willoughby deposed to a statement made to him by Surgeon Blayney, in which he said:—"I was driving in my car through Nassau street from Merrion square towards Grafton street. As I was approaching Kildare street, being then on the inspeing tram line, my side of the road seemed clear in front of me, except for a motor car going in the same direction as myself at about thirty yards ahead of me. I judge I was going at about twelve to fifteen miles an hour. As I neared Kildare street I slowed my speed and blew my horn. I then saw a cyclist coming out of Kildare street and crossing Nassau street, apparently with the intention of turning towards Merrion square. I judged from the pace at which he was going that he would have cleared my car before I reached him, even if I held the course on which I was, but I gave him more room. I turned slightly inwards towards the footpath. As he was reaching the inner rail of the ingoing tram line he pulled up suddenly, and in trying to avoid him I turned in rather sharply. However, I failed to clear him, and as a result of the sharp turn the car skidded and mounted the footpath. When the cyclist was struck he fell under the car, and apparently was dragged by the car, as I saw him pulled out from under the front wheel."

Nicholas Casey, chauffeur, in the employment of Surgeon Blayney, said that the car was going at a speed of from thirteen to fourteen miles an hour. Approaching Kildare street they slowed down and sounded the horn. Witness first saw the cyclist as he shot out of Kildare street. He was going at a pretty sharp pace, and gave no warning of his approach. Dr. Blayney reversed the car and applied the brakes. The cyclist slowed down, so that it would appear as if he applied the brakes. He almost crossed the motor car at the time of the collision.

Surgeon Blayney stated that he did everything possible to try and avoid the collision. If the cyclist had held the pace at which he had been going when first he appeared there would have been no collision. The jury returned a verdict of accidental death, and exonerated Surgeon Blayney. They expressed sympathy with the relatives.

IRISH DISTILLERIES.

ATTITUDE OF THE GOVERNMENT.

Notwithstanding the many announcements which were made during the past week regarding the supposed commandeering of the Irish distilleries in connection with the manufacture of munitions, the Irish distillers have not, as yet, been approached on the subject, and distillation is going on as usual pending developments. It is believed that Irish patent still distilleries will be taken over under the scheme by the Board of Munitions, but it is not anticipated that the pot still distilleries will be interfered with. Patent stills produce an alcohol over 70 O.P., whilst the highest percentage in the product of the pot stills is 50 O.P., the average being somewhat under 40 O.P. The patent stills use principally imported grain, whilst the pot stills use entirely Irish barley, and the purchases for the present year were completed months ago. As a matter of fact, the pot stills have almost finished their present season's distillation, the majority being now engaged on the final processes of rectification. The main difficulty is that stocks are unusually low, and when the War Office announcement was made last week the distillers were inundated with orders, which, having regard to the uncertainty existing in the trade, they declined, for the time being, to execute. Some of the principal distilleries have temporarily suspended the filling of any, save very urgent, orders, and others are booking provisionally at prices more than double those ruling before the outbreak of war. It is expected that this condition of affairs will continue until the Government have definitely announced their intentions in regard to the Irish distilleries.

WAR HOSPITAL SUPPLY DEPOT.

CONCERT AT BLACKROCK.

A capital concert was given last night in the Town Hall, Blackrock. It was held in aid of the Blackrock Branch of the Irish War Hospital Supply Depôt. A crowded audience was attracted. By their frequent and hearty applause it was manifest that the entertainment was thoroughly appreciated and enjoyed. The concert opened with "The Madrigal" (Sullivan) by a capable quartette—Miss Katherine Gahan, Miss Florence Howley, Mr. Arthur R. Lucas, and Mr. Irvine Lynch. Then followed that excellent singer, Mr. W. Hall-Davis, to whom succeeded Miss Kathleen Gahan, in excellent voice Mr. Patrick Delany played "Air Varie" (Venzentipa) with fine precision and expression. Mr. Arthur R. Lucas and Miss Florence Howley each won high encomiums. Mr. W. J. Rafter's whistling solo proved him a *sifflieur par excellence*. Mr. Irvine Lynch gave "Drake goes West" in rare good form. Mr. Fred Jeffs, in "humorous interlude," convulsed everyone with laughter. All these artistes again performed in the second part of the concert, and it concluded as it began, with the same excellent quartette. Miss Aileen Doyle deserves praise for her efficient service as accompanist.

UNIVERSITY OF DUBLIN CHORAL SOCIETY.

A special general meeting of this Society was held in the Society's rooms, 7 T.C.D., on Friday, 18th inst., Rev. J. H. Lawlor, D.D., in the chair.

The statement of accounts for the previous season was received and adopted, and the following were appointed a Committee for the duration of the war:—Hon. Secretary, J. G. Bird, B.A.; Hon. Treasurer, H. P. Mayne, B.A.; Hon. Librarian and Registrar, W. Warnock; T. H. Maxwell, LL.D., T. F. Figgis, LL.D., and K. M. Greer.

It was resolved:—"That this Society desires to record its pride in, and admiration for, the conduct of two of its members—Mr. A. J. Crichton and Mr. M. J. Figgis (Hon. Librarian)—who have fallen in the service of their country, and regret at the loss this Society has thereby sustained."

A resolution of regret for the deaths of Right Hon. Lord Ardilaun, Vice-President; Mr. G. R. Price, K.C., Vice-President; Dr. Benjamin Williamson, S.F.T.C.D.; Miss Craig, and Mrs. Stokes was also passed.

A resolution of appreciation of the patriotic spirit of the following members now on active service was also adopted:—H. M. Fitzgibbon, H. Flewett (ex-Treasurer), Sir S. Cochrane, and R. Grove White (ex-Secretary).

A vote of thanks to the Conductor for his valued services was also unanimously adopted.

In order to maintain the musical efficiency of the orchestra and chorus and, so far as possible, to keep the Society in good working order, the practices are being continued, and it is not proposed to give concerts until the present abnormal times have passed by.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

SATURDAY NIGHT'S LISTS.

The following casualty in the Australian Imperial Force with the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force is reported:—

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED MISSING, NOW REPORTED DIED.

VASSY, Lieut. P., 9th Australian Army Service Corps.

FRANCE.

The following casualty in the Canadian Contingent in the Expeditionary Force is reported:—

OFFICER WOUNDED.

NELSON, Maj. G. W., 14th Canadian Infantry Batt.

The following casualties in the Expeditionary Force are reported from General Headquarters:—

OFFICERS KILLED.

GREENHILL, Lieut. T. W., 4th (Royal Irish) Dragoon Guards.

MARSH, Second Lieut. H. H., 10th Welsh Regt.

OFFICERS WOUNDED.

BAIRD, Lieut. D., Royal Engineers.

BRISCO, Second Lieut. R. B., Royal Engineers.

CARR, Lieut. S., Royal Engineers.

CLINCH, Second Lieut. W. M., Royal Engineers.

ELY, Second Lieut. D. H. J., 14th Durham L.I.

HITCH, Lieut. A. T., 6th Bedfordshire Regiment.

JOLLY, Second Lieut. T. B., 3rd East Surrey Regt.

JOURDAIN, Lieut. R. O., 23rd Royal Fusiliers.

LEE-EVANS, Second Lieut. A., Manchester Regt.

MALLETT, Second Lieut. K. L., 6th Bedfordshire Regt.

OFFICERS WOUNDED.

NICKELS, Lieut. R. N., Royal Field Artillery.

SOUTHERN, Lieut. L., 16th Northumberland Fus.

TAYLOR, Second Lieut. C. E., 10th King's (Liverpool Regiment).

TOLLEMACHE, Second Lieut. C. H., 11th Hampshire Regt.

UPTON, Second Lieut. T. H., Royal Engineers.

The following casualties in the Expeditionary Force are also reported:—

OFFICERS WOUNDED.

SAUNDERS, Sec. Lieut. S. G., 15th Middlesex Regt.

WEST, Sec. Lieut. G. A., 14th Welsh Regt.

EAST AFRICA.

The following casualty is reported from East Africa:—

OFFICER WOUNDED.

WALE, Lieut. A. A., 2nd Loyal North Lancashire Regt.

OTHER RANKS.

FRANCE.

FEBRUARY 12th.

IRISH REGIMENTS ONLY.

DIED OF WOUNDS.

IRISH GUARDS, 1st BATTALION.

Jordan, 7299, Pte. N.; McCruz, 5937, Pte. T.

WOUNDED.

4th (ROYAL IRISH) DRAGOON GUARDS.

Bailey, 8036, Pte. J.

5th (ROYAL IRISH) LANCERS.

Squire, 4870, Pte. W.

VARIOUS DATES.

KILLED.

ROYAL MUNSTER FUSILIERS, 7th BATTALION.

Smith, 20175, Pte. J.

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED WOUNDED AND MISSING, NOW REPORTED KILLED.

ROYAL MUNSTER FUSILIERS, 6th BATTALION.

Bradley, 5138, Pte. J.; Delaney, 949, Pte. C.

ROYAL MUNSTER FUSILIERS, 7th BATTALION.

Miller, 1791, Lce-Corpl. W. E.

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED MISSING, NOW REPORTED KILLED.

ROYAL MUNSTER FUSILIERS, 6th BATTALION.

Casey, 549, Lce-Corpl. M.; McLean, 1030, Pte. D.

DIED.

ROYAL MUNSTER FUSILIERS, 1st BATTALION.

Afield, 6/2761, Pte.

CORRECTION.

PREVIOUSLY ERRONEOUSLY REPORTED WOUNDED, NOW REPORTED NOT MISSING.

ROYAL MUNSTER FUSILIERS, 1st BATTALION.

Condon, 9746, Pte. T.

THE BALKANS.

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED MISSING, NOW REPORTED NOT MISSING.

ROYAL IRISH FUSILIERS, 5th BATTALION.

Hill, 22373, Pte. A.

OVERSEAS.

The following casualties are reported from Overseas, under various dates:—

DIED.

ROYAL DUBLIN FUSILIERS, 7th BATTALION.

McCormack, 14965, Pte. B.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

WAR OFFICE, FEB. 18, 1916.

REGULAR FORCES.

The undermentioned Warrant and Non-Commissioned Officers to be Second Lieutenants for service in the Field:—

CAVALRY.

2nd Dragoons (Royal Scots Greys)—Sergeant-Major R. Currie.

ROYAL REGIMENT OF ARTILLERY.

Royal Horse and Royal Field Artillery—Battery Sergeant-Major F. S. Smith, Battery Sergeant-Major T. W. Cull, Sergeant R. J. Campbell, Coldstream Guards; Battery Quartermaster-Sergeant J. Haynes, Squadron Sergeant-Major W. Wright, from 6th Dragoon Guards (Carabiniers); Battery Sergeant-Major T. Hogan, Battery Sergeant-Major W. T. McGuinness, Battery Quartermaster-Sergeant A. W. H. Norman, Battery Quartermaster-Sergeant E. Mitchell, Sergeant-Major T. B. Weston, Sergeant E. Trudgill, Sergeant J. V. Bryant, Corporal R. H. Brown, K.R.R.C.

Royal Garrison Artillery—Battery Sergeant-Major J. Spackman, Corporal A. Walsh.

INFANTRY.

Royal Scots (Lothian Regiment)—Quartermaster-Sergeant A. McGregor Wilson, from the Black Watch (Royal Highlanders).

Northumberland Fusiliers—Company Sergeant-Major A. G. Edwards, from the Duke of Edinburgh's (Wiltshire Regiment).

King's (Liverpool Regiment)—Acting Sergeant-Major J. Walsh.

Lincolnshire Regiment—Company Sergeant-Major Sydney Clarke, Company Sergeant-Major J. H. Healey.

Leicestershire Regiment—Quartermaster Sergeant F. Oliver, from 6th Dragoon Guards (Carabiniers); Sergeant W. A. Evans, from Indian Unattached List (Corps of Military Staff Clerks).

Royal Scots Fusiliers—Company Quartermaster-Sergeant J. Tinley, from the Black Watch (Royal Highlanders).

Hampshire Regiment—Sergeant-Major G. Packer, from the Prince of Wales's (North Staffordshire Regiment).

South Staffordshire Regiment—Sergeant-Major J. Sharpe, Quartermaster-Sergeant J. Underwood, Company Quartermaster-Sergeant F. P. Morgan.

Welsh Regiment—Company Quartermaster-Sergeant A. W. Taylor, from Army Cyclists Corps; Company Quartermaster-Sergeant A. H. Jackson Lane, from Coldstream Guards.

Essex Regiment—Sergeant J. R. Parks, from Grenadier Guards, and seconded for duty with the New Zealand forces.

Loyal North Lancashire Regiment—Sergeant G. F. Smith, from the Hampshire regiment; Sergeant N. S. Hibbard, from 3rd (King's Own) Hussars.

Middlesex Regiment—Company Sergeant-Major W. O'Meara.

York and Lancaster Regiment—Sergeant A. W. Langford, from Scots Guards.

Durham Light Infantry—Sergeant H. J. Lais, from 7th (Princess Royal's) Dragoon Guards.

CORPS OF ROYAL ENGINEERS.

The undermentioned non-commissioned officers to be temporary Second Lieutenants—Sapper S. Gill, Corporal A. N. Gates, Sergeant W. G. Grime, from 2nd Regiment, King Edward's Horse; Lance-Sergeant F. H. McDonell, from 2nd Regiment, King Edward's Horse; Lance-Corporal T. R. Lanyon, from 2nd Regiment, King Edward's Horse.

MEMORANDA.

The undermentioned to be temporary Second Lieutenants—Sapper T. H. Birdsall, from Royal Engineers; Corporal (Motor Cyclist) B. E. Glover, from Royal Engineers; Private W. S. Smith-Davidson, from the Army Service Corps; Private A. S. Elierten, from Coldstream Guards.

STEAMER ASHORE.

Lloyd's report that the Comris Castle is ashore at Moelfaen. Assistance was rendered during Thursday night. Passengers landed.

WHAT SHILLINGS

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SPORTING NEWS.

GATWICK MEETING—SATURDAY.

1.0—**THE GOTLAND DOUBLE HANDICAP STEEPLECHASE** of £100. (Class 2). Two miles. (Started at 1.5.)

Mr. D. Stuart's br. g. **ASAKUR**, by St. Gris, dam by Homing, 4, 12-1 ..... C. Hawkins 1

Mr. F. Parker's **TWEEDLEDUM**, a., 11-12 ..... Walkington 2

Mr. P. Whitaker's **FULL HOUSE**, 6, 11-7 ..... J. Anthony 3

Also ran—Mr. Pick's, 11-6 (C. Kelly); Albany, 4, 11-4 (J. W. Earl).

Betting—5 to 4 on Tweedledum, 5 to 1 each agst. Mr. Pick and ASAKUR, 7 to 1 Full House.

Won by four lengths; a bad third.

1.45—**THE TIMBERHAM SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE RACE** of £90. Winner to be sold for £850. Two miles. (Started at 1.45.)

Mr. W. Golding's ch. g. **GREEN LANE**, by Cosmos—Olwy, 5, 10-8 ..... W. Hilton 1

Mr. A. Gorham's **ST. ALPHONSO**, a., 12-4 ..... Mr. L. Rees 2

Mr. E. Morris's **CORNUSCRESCINE**, 4, 10-6 ..... Different 3

Also ran—Roy Hamilton, 5, 12-0 (Mr. Stubbs); Tim Rhu, 5, 11-13 (L. W. Batchelor); Rubber King, 6, 11-11 (Flannery); Volscian, 5, 12-0 (Mr. T. A. Brown); Mogador, 6, 11-11 (Walkington); Bandock, a., 11-2 (Bringsli); Stargazing, 5, 11-6 (Cullen); South Parade, 5, 11-2 (J. W. Earl); Gamphera, 5, 11-4 (A. Cox); Chuka, 5, 11-3 (Threlfell); Hot Fox, 5, 10-11 (C. Hawkins); Kilsarla, 4, 10-9 (Reardon); Artist Square, 4, 10-5 (C. Young); Avernus, a, 10-13 (Mr. Harrison); Tip and Run, a, 10-10 (G. Duller); Village Rose, a, 10-0 (Mr. King).

Winner trained by Filton.

Betting—13 to 8 agst. GREEN LANE, 4 to 1 Chuka, 10 to 1 each Volscian, Tim Rhu and Hot Fox, 100 to 8 each Avernus and Artist Square, 100 to 6 bar seven.

Won by three lengths; five lengths separated second and third.

2.15—**THE STAYERS' STEEPLECHASE** of £90. Three miles. (Started at 2.15.)

Mrs. A. Chilton's br. g. **BRIDGE IV.**, by Baddesley—Bridget, a., 11-10 ..... W. Smyth 1

Miss F. Garth's **NEMO**, a., 11-10 ..... Mr. H. M. Hartigan 2

Sir G. Bullock's **SWEET TIPPERARY**, a., 11-10 ..... Mr. F. Roberts 3

Also ran—Clondalkin, a., 11-10 (Driscoll); Bellane—11 to 10 on Usary, 3 to 1 agst. BRIDGE IV., 5 to 1 Clondalkin, 10 to 1 Nemo, 100 to 8 bar four.

Won by a length and a half; three lengths separated second and third.

2.45—**THE CROYDON HURDLE RACE** of £100. Weight for age. Two miles. (Started at 2.47.)

Mr. F. Wootton's b. c. **STRONG BOY**, by Collar—La Belle Brisanne, 4, 10-7 ..... W. Smyth 1

Mr. P. Carr's **THE ANT**, 5, 11-5 ..... W. H. S. Harrison 2

Mr. P. Matthey's **BLUE STONE**, 6, 11-7 ..... Parfrement 3

Also ran—Santa Bella, a, 11-7 (F. Holmes); Singleton, 5, 11-5 (Hopper); Water Rod, 4, 10-7 (C. Young); White Surrey, 5, 10-7 (W. Earl).

(Winner trained by Weston.)

Betting—6 to 4 on Blue Stone, 5 to 2 agst. STRONG BOY, 8 to 1 Singleton, 100 to 8 The Ant, 20 to 1 bar four.

Won by four lengths; the same distance separated second and third.

3.15—**THE STEWARDS' DOUBLE HANDICAP STEEPLECHASE** of £100 (Class 1). Three miles. (Started at 3.17.)

Lady Nelson's b. c. **LADY SLOPER**, by Travelling Lad—Sally in Our Alley, 5, 11-12 ..... J. Anthony 1

Lord Lonsdale's **LORD MARCUS**, a., 12-6 ..... Parfrement 2

Mr. Eric Platt's **COVERTCOAT**, a. ..... Jackins 3

Also ran—Real Grit, 6, 12-2 (Fred Aylin); Growler, a, 12-2 (Earl); Jacobus, a, 12-1 (Nayler).

Winner trained by Hastings.

Betting—4 to 1 on Lord Marcus, 6 to 1 Real Grit, 10 to 1 Jacobus, 100 to 8 ALLY SLOPER or Growler, 20 to 1 Covertcoat.

Won by a head; four lengths separated second and third. Real Grit, Jacobus, and Growler fell.

3.45—**THE WICKHAM DOUBLE HANDICAP HURDLE RACE** of £100. (Class 1). Two miles. (Started at 3.46.)

Mr. S. Gollan's b. c. **THE BINKIN**, by Lafas—Bion, 5, 11-4 ..... Hopper 1

Major Mc. L. **TALUS**, a., 11-4 ..... Threlfell 2

Col. Fisher Child's **AURETTE**, a, 11-2 ..... J. Anthony 3

Also ran—Blue Danube, 5, 12-2 (Parfrement); The Bore, 5, 11-4 (G. Duller); Beaverol, 5, 11-2 (Reardon).

Winner trained by R. Day.

Betting—6 to 2 agst. THE BINKIN, 5 to 1 Auretto, 7 to 2 Talus, 7 to 1 Blue Danube, 6 to 1 The Bore, 10 to 1 Beaverol.

Won by a length and a half; two lengths separated second and third.

SPORT

FROM TO-DAY'S LONDON PAPERS.

THE NEW OUTLOOK.

Unless present signs should be belied by some incalculable disaster, the Allies ought to come within the next four months to the turning point of the struggle, writes Mr. J. L. Garvin in the *Observer*. The moral effect of the renewed pledge to Belgium is nearly as important as the magnificent stroke in Armenia. More important than either is the fair certainty that by the end of next autumn, if not by summer, the enemy Empires will be permanently outnumbered and outmunitioned to the extent required for the sure convergence of the Allies upon their central objective, and for their progressive advance, stage by stage, to the final triumph. The assurance of complete victory will be visibly in our hands this year if the Allied Governments are competent. That is why it is more necessary than ever to urge them on in order that they may grasp every opportunity in the coming campaign and avoid any repetition of the mismanagement which would again throw back our prospects.

LORD BERESFORD'S SPEECH.

It is understood, says the writer of Secret History in *Reynolds's Newspaper*, that Lord Charles Beresford will make his maiden speech in the House of Lords on Tuesday on the blockade question. He is expected to follow Lord Sydenham, who introduces the matter in the form of a motion. There is likely to be some straight speaking.

KEEPING THE FLAG FLYING.

It is a time-honoured principle of the Constitution that when Parliament is sitting an enormous Union Jack, nearly twenty feet long, should be flown from the Victorian Tower, writes the political representative of the *Weekly Dispatch*. During last Wednesday's gale six of these flags were successively blown away, but the seventh was promptly hoisted just before dusk. Thus traditional observance was maintained, and members who are spokers for this kind of thing were not horrified by the sight of a flagless tower. It is an open question whether the effectiveness of debate would be influenced at all if this flag-wagging custom were abandoned, at least, until the war is over, and we had plenty of money again to spare on flags and other gauds.

WHAT A BOMB DID.

I am told that Prince George of Wales, who is at school at Broadstairs, enjoys the privilege at Sunday Service of extinguishing the lectern light before the Service starts, says a writer in the *Weekly Dispatch*. But last Sunday he changed his seat with another boy in order that he might look out of the window at "the bombed school," which is quite near.

IS IT TRUE ?

It is understood that the inventor of the Fokker aeroplane, which has been doing such big service for the Germans, offered his invention, not only once, but twice, to the British War Office, only to meet with refusal, says *Reynolds's Newspaper*. Small wonder that, after being so discouraged, he offered it the third time to the Germans, who immediately accepted it. Mr. Fokker is a Dutchman.

THE COMING BUDGET.

New taxes of a courageous order will figure in the coming Budget, imposing upon the community the necessity of saving up to a certain point whether they like it or not, says the *News of the World*. Taxation, however, can never provide more than a drop in the mighty ocean of gold required to wage war at the rate of five millions a day. The huge balances will have to be made good by the maintenance of our credit. The wealth of this country is enormously greater than that of its enemies. But the demands upon our resources are also enormously greater. It is up to every man, woman, and child in the community to take this truth to heart and act upon it. For nation, any more than for individuals, there is no magic by which cobble-stones can be turned into gold nuggets. To have the gold we must work and save and stint ourselves. And that is what Britain expects to-day from those who cannot offer her their blood in this supreme emergency.

HOW THE KAISERIN HAS CHANGED.

The following is extracted from Gossip of the Day in this week's issue of the *News of the World*:—If you saw the Kaiserin now you would not recognise her, says an American in Berlin, in a letter to a friend in London. She is a haggard, nervous, old woman now; her head shakes. Since the day when her guards so cruelly abused the poor women who clung to her carriage, crying—"Give us back our dead" she has rarely been seen in public.

SIR EDWARD CARSON'S CONDITION.

The new Opposition is unfortunate in the health of some of its best men, says the political representative of the *Weekly Dispatch*. While Sir Edward Carson is progressing very favourably, indeed, he is not expected to be in the fighting ranks for some little time yet. Sir Arthur Markham, who has been suffering from a heart affection, due to overwork, is now up, but will not be back in the House at the earliest for several weeks.

CHANGES AFTER THE WAR.

STATE CONTROL OF INDUSTRY.

At Cambridge on Saturday Mr. E. S. Montagu, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, alluding to the Military Service Act, said: Without it we could not have the armies necessary to defeat Germany, but Liberals would never tolerate Conscription as a permanent part of our institutions. The attacks which were made on the Government in some cases sprang not from courage, but from cowardice. There was generally an answer to them, but it could not be given by the Government without assisting our enemies. He indicated that after the war we might have to change the fiscal system, and also our opinions respecting the State control of industry.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

THE APPAM CONTROVERSY.

BRITISH OWNERS' CLAIM.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM)

WASHINGTON, SATURDAY.

Legal representatives of British owners of the Appam have brought Admiralty proceedings under the Prize Laws to regain possession of the ship. The British contention is that the Appam should be returned to its owners under a provision of the Hague Convention, while the State Department holds that she is a prize under the Prussian-American Treaty.

APPAM'S PASSENGERS AND OFFICERS AT LIVERPOOL.

The White Star liner Baltic arrived at Liverpool on Saturday with officers and passengers from the Appam, and the crews of the steamships Trader, Author, Ariadne, Faringford, and Dromonby, all sunk by the Moewe. Members of the crews stated that the Germans had dealt fairly with them, despite the hardship of being fastened down between decks, except for an hour's exercise daily. When the Appam's wireless operator started sending the S.O.S. the German operator sent out a continuous stream of nonsense, preventing the Appam's wireless appeals from being understood.

AFTER THE WAR.

FRONTIER TOWNS OF THE FUTURE.

INVISIBLE FORTIFICATIONS AND STREET TRENCHES.

The following despatch has been received from Mr. H. Warner Allen, a special correspondent of the British Press with the French Army:—

After visiting towns and villages of the existing temporary French frontier, one is prone to raise the question: What will be the land defences of a Continental Power after the present war? Perhaps it would be better to express this question in different terms, as there is a school of optimism which believes that after the Armageddon of to-day no country will need to defend itself. One, then, may ask the same question in the following terms: What would have been the appearance and organisation of a French frontier town or village before the war, if the military authorities had realised all the modifications that explosives and modern invention had introduced into the art of war?

Now after eighteen months of warfare, it is possible to suppose that the towns and villages in the firing line have been fortified and organised in such a way as they would have been if it had been possible to comprehend beforehand the effects of high explosives and the defensive power of the barbed wire, and trenches. The organisation of modern fortifications is in the past the French eastern frontier was defended by a row of powerful forts. Their position was known and marked on the map, so that the enemy's gunners knew the positions of which were necessary to bombard, could hurl shells upon them with utmost precision. These consisted of a belt of forts several miles away from the central town, and behind the fortresses there were left gaps, and field guns taken from the exact value of forts, the importance of which were controversial. At any rate, the idea is that, given the great accuracy of modern artillery directed by aerial observation, it is probably safer and more effective to place a well-concealed emplacement, or even to put an armoured turret in the foremost trench, behind many feet of reinforced concrete and protected by armour.

THE MODERN TRENCH.

In time of peace the frontier town prepared for the exigencies of modern warfare would undoubtedly show far less evidence of its fortifications than the walled towns of the Middle Ages. Presumably, there would be no need to have protective barbed wire or stone barricades in the streets, such as one may see to-day anywhere within a mile of the Rhine. However, foresighted military authorities would have everything ready to prepare these obstacles at the slightest alarm. The real defences would lie in a well-ordered system of trenches that would probably demand no less labour and expense to construct and keep up than the most powerful of mediæval fortresses.

A sleepy provincial town with red roofs, side down a little street, and just as he was reaching the edge of the town he would be hailed by a sentry. Only if he was a privileged person would he be allowed to pass. And then, a yard or two beyond, he would find that the road would be converted into a ditch. The ditch would deepen rapidly until it was seen on sight feet below the surface. Then it would begin to branch out in all directions. There would be nothing resembling to the crest of a hill which a view could be obtained, but rather trenches running to machine gun emplacements, and others leading to some deep-dug dwelling, probably of concrete, and armored like a Dreadnought. It is probable enough that these trenches would be defended by square miles of barbed wire. In the vicinity there would run telephonic wires every sector and keep the observation posts in direct and unbroken communication with the artillery in the rear.

Experience has shown that, contrary to the rules of ancient tactics, it is on the near side of a hill that barbed wire entanglements and trenches are most difficult to carry. The artillery preparation, which is the usual precursor of an assault, can produce best effect on the receding slope of a hill. The ground itself is a dangerous point, since it can be swept by the enemy's artillery. Hence the use for the observation posts than can be established there, each of which is connected with the trench down the hill behind with a narrow trench.

PRIVATE PROPERTY.

Private property is likely to suffer not a little. Imagine the expenditure of time, labour, and money! At the present moment the trenches run through the middle of houses, wind about flower gardens, and devastate magnificent parks. There can be no doubt, the private owner will adapt himself to the changed conditions and may be skilful enough to incorporate a network of trenches into an ornamental part of his garden. In any rate, the authorities will scold to be that, if he wishes to the lower stone ground, there will be a rabbit warren, a kind of subterranean suburb, below.

The rich man, presumably, will have his bomb-proof home. His cellars will be organised to provide the maximum of cover, and will be provided with exits that will afford a means of escape even if the whole house has collapsed upon them. For the poorer people there will be public bomb-proof shelters, such as those used at Arras and Soissons. But in a bombardment they will simply leave their houses as they do to-day, and remain underground until the bombardment has ceased.

GAS, LIGHT, AND ZEPPELINS.

There will be the most complicated preparations for defence against gas attacks. Arrangements for lighting fires to carry the gas upwards will be kept permanently in readiness. All that would be necessary would be the warning would be given, and along the line that there was danger the man would don his patent helmet.

Again, in a Zeppelin raids, it would seem that the most serious problems in the construction, even far behind the lines, are those of arrangement for the immediate lighting in the public streets. In the future, even in the average citizen will accept the idea of being cast into more or less permanent darkness on air attack, and municipal councils will find some way of providing that streets shall be lighted until warning of a aerial raid is given. In the present war the number of accidents and deaths due to the insufficient lighting of the streets must be very nearly equal to that of the victims of the Zeppelins.

A TERRIBLE BURDEN.

Certainly, if after the present war, Continental nations are to live in imminent peril of attack from a neighbour, permanent systematic preparation of trenches and the like, to protect a frontier will be a terrible burden on the country. Moreover, if scientific invention is going to keep up its present rate of progress, there seems every reason to suppose that all these preparations will be out of date in a year or two; and that as soon as they are put to the test of war they will be found to be no more effective than were the fortifications in Belgium, which were built at a cost of many millions, to prevent invasion.

LATEST NEWS.

GERMAN PAMPHLETS SEIZED.

FABLE OF THE STUFFED LION.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM)

AMSTERDAM, SATURDAY.

It is stated on good authority that in a consignment of American tobacco which recently reached Rotterdam an interesting discovery was made consisting of pro-German pamphlets and letters to addresses in Germany. One of the pamphlets in English and German was entitled "Fable of the Stuffed Lion," and contained caricatures of Great Britain and of the Allies. It is understood that the cargo will now be sent to England for a Prize Court to deal with.

CHARGE AGAINST TRADE UNION OFFICIAL.

ALLEGED INTERFERENCE WITH GOVERNMENT WORK.

Great public interest was displayed at Bow street, London, on Saturday in a case against a trade union official for alleged attempted interference with the output of munitions. The defendant was Tom Rees, of 125 Parkdale road, Plumstead, and the summons, issued at the instance of the Director of Public Prosecutions, alleged that he, within a period of six months immediately preceding the 11th February, 1916, within the Metropolitan Police District, did unlawfully, and contrary to the Defence of the Realm Consolidation Regulations, 1914, attempt to impede and delay the production of war material.

The proceedings are regarded as being of great importance. The defendant is a well-known trade unionist, holding the position of Secretary of the London District of the Amalgamated Society of Engineers.

Prior to the opening of the case the magistrate held a private consultation with the prosecution and the defence. The defendant attended the conference, to which several other trade unionists in court were afterwards invited.

Mr. Bodkin, in opening the case for the Ministry of Munitions, explained that the defendant was a whole-time official of the union, and undoubtedly was a person of influence with his fellow-members. The works in question were of an important character, and had been working continuously day and night on Government work. There was a great quantity of machinery on the premises, operated by unskilled persons, many of them. It was the defendant's attitude respecting pay rates for night work which brought him within the regulations. There was in connection with the matter an industrial dispute, and Mr. Rees was there for putting what the prosecution said was unlawful pressure on the men willingly and patriotically working to cause them to cease work.

The hearing was adjourned for a fortnight.

SIR CHARLES NICHOLSON AND ZEPPELINS.

Speaking at the annual meeting on Saturday night of the Doncaster Liberal Association, Sir Charles Nicholson, M.P., referred to the demand in some quarters for reprisals against Germany arising out of Zeppelin raids. Whatever we did, he hoped we would not be guilty of the barbarism Germans practised. He had come to the conclusion that guns were not much use against Zeppelins, which must be met in the air.

BISHOP OF LICHFIELD ON REPRISALS.

In an address issued to the Diocese of Lichfield on Saturday, Bishop Kempthorne, after describing the recent air raid on the Midlands, says:—Some people are advocating what they call reprisals. They have proposed that our airmen should be ordered deliberately to seek out unarmed people and to drop bombs on them. We rightly speak of the Zeppelin achievement as the murder of women and children by Germany. "I do not believe," says the Bishop, "that those among us who have suffered the severest loss would for one moment desire anything of the kind. We are told that by such reprisals we shall be saving our own women and children. If this were true, I believe our women and children would count it an insult that we should protect them by such hateful means; but it is not true. We shall not beat the Germans at the game of reprisals. We can beat them on the sea. In skill and courage our airmen are superior to theirs. In due time we shall defeat them on land; but we cannot beat them in this foul business of assault on the defenceless. By all means let us do our best to smash the Zeppelin sheds and the Zeppelins themselves. "Let us drop bombs on Essen and other arsenals," the Bishop proceeds to say; "let us punish, if we can, those who are guilty of murder; but do not let us disgrace our country by asking our brave airmen to slaughter babies. Let us not befoul a just and righteous cause, and let our swords be clean from dishonour."

BLOWN TO PIECES BY A ZEPPELIN BOMB.

The sister of a farmer in Lincolnshire found on Sunday an article which she thought was a radiator fan from a motor car. She took it home, and on Friday, while turning round the propeller, her brother, aged 28, was blown to pieces by the detonator from a Zeppelin bomb. The sister was injured in the leg, but another youth in the room was uninjured.

SHIPOWNERS' PROFITS.

The annual report of the Moor Line Steamships, Ltd., of Newcastle-on-Tyne, states that the profits on completed voyages made by the company's fleet amount to £373,248. The Spennymoor, the Tullochmoor, the Inglemoor, the Linkmoor, and the Glenmoor were sunk by German submarines. The hire paid by the Government for vessels is approximately equivalent to one-third or one-fourth of freight obtainable in open market. The Chirn Line of Steamships, Newcastle, reports a profit of £162,689.

CANADA AND AUSTRALIAN PRIME MINISTER.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM)

OTTAWA, FRIDAY.

Mr. Hughes, Prime Minister of Australia, was to-day sworn member of the Privy Council. Afterwards he attended a meeting of the Cabinet, at which Imperial affairs were discussed. The event is unique and unparalleled in the history of Canada.

LOST NORWEGIAN STEAMER.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM)

CHRISTIANIA, SATURDAY.

The German Foreign Office has informed the Norwegian Minister in Berlin that the investigation into the loss of the Norwegian steamer Benkoer at the beginning of January proves that the submarine which sunk the ship was not a German vessel.

RECRUITING OF FISHERMEN.

A notice issued on Saturday night by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries sets forth that fishermen are regarded as a reserve for the Navy, and are not liable for service in the Army unless it should be decided at some future time that they are more urgently needed for that service. Fishermen (sea fishing) are included among the certified occupations exempted from the provisions of the Military Service Act, but as regards service in the Army only.

SOUTHERN FIELD OF WAR.

BIG ITALIAN AIR RAID.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM)

ROME, SATURDAY.

To-day's official *communiqué* says:—

There have been artillery engagements at various points of the front, and reprisals of fire against inhabited districts.

In reply to the numerous violations of international law persistently made by the enemy since the beginning of the war, yesterday morning a squadron of our Caproni machines made a raid on Ljubljana. During the whole of their journey they were subjected to the fire of numerous anti-aircraft batteries and attacked by enemy aeroplanes, but, nevertheless, our brave aviators succeeded in attaining their object. Dropping from the clouds to a lower altitude when they got over the town, they dropped no dozens of grenade mines and bombs. One of our machines being attacked and surrounded by six Austrian machines, was forced to land in enemy territory. The other machines returned safely to our lines.

[Ljubljana is the Slavonic name for Laibach, the capital of Carniola, a town with about forty thousand inhabitants].

FIRE AT GENOA PORT.

TWO FOREIGNERS ARRESTED.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM)

ROME, SATURDAY.

A serious fire occurred last night at the port of Genoa. It started among some stores of coal and tallow recently unloaded from a neighbouring ship. The flames assumed alarming proportions, and spread to the English ship Llanishen and some Italian ships close by. The firemen towed the Llanishen outside the dock. Soldiers and police were called upon to assist the firemen in extinguishing the flames, and the fire was ultimately confined to the limits of the dock, and at the hour of telegraphing it was hoped it would be got under control in a few hours. Two suspicious-looking foreigners have been arrested on a charge of causing the fire.

LIFE IN AUSTRIA.

ENGLISH GOVERNESS'S REVELATIONS.

FEAR OF GERMAN DESIGNS.

Miss Wailes, a Tyneside lady, who has been for over four years governess in Vienna has just returned home. She describes Austrians as kind-hearted, lovable, easy-going people, who before the war had great respect for England and the English, but says they are embittered now, because they believe England caused the war for commercial reasons, and that but for England it would have resulted long ago in victory for the Central Powers. Moreover, they believe that but for England other enemies would be willing to make peace. After the murder of the Austrian Archduke there was a burst of enthusiasm for the punish. Germ of Serbia, and the feeling revived when Russia interfered. The Italians, it is declared, betrayed Austria. There is ample evidence, Miss Wailes says, that Austrians do not like the Germans, and fear is expressed of German designs with respect to Austria. The Austrians admire the German Army, and are impressed by German national greatness. All victories gained by the Central Powers are credited by Austrians to German soldiers. On the other hand, the Germans never utter a word of praise for Austrian soldiers, who have been on all fronts, even in France, fighting alongside Germans.

When leaving Vienna Miss Wailes was asked by some Austrians to tell the people of England that the Austrians are happy and glad, and to give their love to Sir Edward Grey, and ask him to make peace. English residents in Vienna have, says Miss Wailes, been well treated during the war, and she went about freely. Vienna is gay and bright, but almost every man is wearing a uniform, and there are many wounded soldiers. Men up to 55 years have been called up. The German influence in Vienna, she says, is considerable, and as a result of this the Austrians now refer to the English as barbarians. They rejoice when Zeppelins raid England, and believe firmly that the British Navy is in hiding. There is much anxiety as to the future of the country, arising out of the Emperor's state of health.

FLOODS IN HOLLAND.

WATERS FALLING.

WOMEN DROWNED AND HOUSES DESTROYED.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM)

AMSTERDAM, SATURDAY.

The latest reports regarding the floods cause considerable relief.

At Bukhisset the water in the North Holland Canal has fallen ten inches since yesterday. This morning, however, it again rose slightly. The tramcars from Amsterdam only go as far as Nieuwendam, so as not to endanger the dyke. At Woenwer the level of the Zaan has fallen 2½ inches as compared with yesterday, and the situation is no longer that of imminent danger.

At Kromienesie the water has already begun to come through the secondary dam, but the level is now falling. The Dyke Guard and volunteers are working desperately. Many inhabitants have removed their property to the attics of their houses. At Zaandam the water fell fourteen inches during the night, but this morning is rising again.

Although the water fell at Kleinesluis, that place is still almost isolated, the only communication being by means of boats. It appears that some women have been drowned there, but their bodies have not yet been recovered. At Volendam the back walls of seventeen houses have collapsed, and one newly-built house has been destroyed.

GERMANY'S INDUSTRIAL SITUATION.

(REUTER'S TELEGRAM)

AMSTERDAM, FRIDAY.

According to a Berlin telegram the Prussian Diet to-day discussed the industrial situation in Germany. All the speakers dwelt on the way in which industry, supported by technical science, had at once entered the service of the Fatherland. Industry, they said, had proved the strongest pillar of the Empire. Substitutes had been found for such raw material as were lacking, and German scientists, urged on by the necessity of the times, were making Germany independent of foreign countries. Great Britain, they declared, would never succeed in eliminating Germany from the markets of the world, because the world would always buy where the goods were the best and cheapest. A Socialist, Herr Hue, remarked that German industry had sufficient supplies of coal and ores. The conditions of the coke and steel markets were excellent, and no scarcity of raw material need be apprehended. Great Britain has made a mistake, he declared, in thinking we could be forced to stop the war owing to the lack of raw materials. As the representative of the workers in the mining industry, Herr Hue laid special stress on the fact that if Germany were to lose Alsace-Lorraine it would be practically a death-blow to Germany's iron mining industry.

COMMERCE AFTER THE WAR.

Speakers of all parties declared that Germany's commerce was struggling upwards. They said that Germany's enemies were attempting the destruction of German commerce, and were ascertaining the reasons connected with the war that it could never revive; but the speakers said that German commerce will regain its place in the world. Our circulation of money has not been disturbed, and our stock of gold has been almost doubled during the war. The position of the Reichsbank is better than that of enemy banks. Loans have been splendidly disposed of. The unrivalled capacity of the German merchant will regain its reputation after the war.

FATAL MOTOR ACCIDENT IN DUBLIN.

EVIDENCE AT THE INQUEST.

MR. BLAYNEY EXONERATED.

An inquest was held in St. Vincent's Hospital, Dublin, on Saturday on Edmond Walter Hyder, aged 19, an engineering student, of Audley House, Highfield road, Rathgar, who was accidentally killed by being knocked down by a motor car, driven by Surgeon Blayney, while cycling in Leinster street the previous day. Mr. J. H. M'Loughlin represented Surgeon Blayney, and Inspector Willoughby appeared on behalf of the police.

Evidence of identification was given by Mr. Charles J. Hyder, father of the deceased.

Christopher Doyle stated that about 9 o'clock the previous morning he was coming out of the Kildare street Club, when he saw a man riding down Kildare street on the left hand side, and was turning into Leinster street when a motor car came from the direction of Merrion square. The cyclist turned out, and the motor driver turned in to his left to avoid him, but the motor car struck him and dragged him some distance. The motor car then struck the window of Messrs. Sharpley's shop.

Dr. King, house surgeon, St. Vincent's Hospital, said that death, which was instantaneous, was due to heart rupture.

Inspector Willoughby deposed to a statement made to him by Surgeon Blayney, in which he said:—"I was driving in my car through Nassau street from Merrion square towards Grafton street. As I was approaching Kildare street, being then on the inging tram line, my side of the road seemed clear in front of me, except for a motor car going in the same direction as myself at about thirty yards ahead of me. I judge I was going at about twelve to fifteen miles an hour. As I neared Kildare street I slowed my speed and blew my horn. I then saw a cyclist coming out of Kildare street and crossing Nassau street, apparently with the intention of turning towards Merrion square. I judged from the pace at which he was going that he would have cleared my car before I reached him, even if I held the course on which I was, but I gave him more room. I turned slightly inwards towards the footpath. As he was reaching the inner rail of the ingoing tram line he pulled up suddenly, and in trying to avoid him I turned in rather sharply. However, I failed to avoid him, and as a result of the sharp turn the car skidded and mounted the footpath. When the cyclist was struck he fell under the car, and apparently was dragged by the car, as I saw him pulled out from under the front wheel."

Nicholas Casey, chauffeur, in the employment of Surgeon Blayney, said that the car was going at a speed of from thirteen to fourteen miles an hour. Approaching Kildare street they slowed down and sounded the horn. Witness first saw the cyclist as he shot out of Kildare street. He was going at a pretty sharp pace, and gave no warning of his approach. Dr. Blayney swerved the car and applied the brakes. The cyclist slowed down, so that it would appear as if he applied the brakes. He almost crossed the motor car at the time of the collision.

Surgeon Blayney stated that he did everything possible to try and avoid the collision. If the cyclist had held the pace at which he had been going when first he appeared there would have been no collision.

The jury returned a verdict of accidental death, and exonerated Surgeon Blayney. They expressed sympathy with the relatives.

IRISH DISTILLERIES.

ATTITUDE OF THE GOVERNMENT.

Notwithstanding the many announcements which were made during the past week regarding the supposed commandeering of the Irish distilleries in connection with the manufacture of munitions, the Irish distillers have not, as yet, been approached on the subject, and distillation is going on in the usual pending developments. It is believed that the Irish patent still distilleries will be taken over under the scheme by the Board of Munitions, but it is not anticipated that the pot still distilleries will be interfered with. Patent stills produce an alcohol over 70 O.P., while the highest percentage in the product of the pot stills is 50 O.P., the average being somewhat under 40 O.P. The patent stills use principally imported grain, whilst the pot stills use entirely Irish barley, and the purchases for the present year were completed months ago. As a matter of fact, the pot stills have almost finished their present season's distillation, the majority being now engaged on the final processes of rectification. The main difficulty is that stocks are unusually low, and when the War Office announcement was made last week the distillers were inundated with orders, which, having regard to the uncertainty existing in the trade, they declined, for the time being, to execute. Some of the principal distilleries have temporarily suspended the fulfilling of any, save very urgent, orders, and others are booking provisionally at prices more than double those ruling before the outbreak of war. It is expected that this condition of affairs will continue until the Government have definitely announced their intentions in regard to the Irish distilleries.

WAR HOSPITAL SUPPLY DEPOT.

CONCERT AT BLACKROCK.

A capital concert was given last night in the Town Hall, Blackrock. It was held in aid of the Blackrock Branch of the Irish War Hospital Supply Depôt. A crowded audience was attracted. By their frequent and hearty applause it was manifest that the entertainment was thoroughly appreciated and enjoyed. The concert opened with "The Madrigal" (Sullivan) by a capable quartette—Miss Kathleen Gahan, Miss Florence Howley, Mr. Arthur R. Lucas, and Mr. Irvine Lynch. Then followed that excellent singer, Mr. T. W. Hall, to whom succeeded Miss Kathleen Gahan, in excellent voice. Mr. Patrick Delany played "Air Varie" (Vieuxtemps) with fine precision and expression. Mr. Arthur R. Lucas and Miss Florence Howley each won high encomiums. Mr. W. J. Rafter's whistling solo proved him a *sighter par excellence*. Mr. Irvine Lynch gave "Drake goes West" in rare good form. Mr. Fred Jeffs, in a "humorous interlude," convulsed everyone with laughter. All these artistes again performed in the second part of the concert, and it concluded as it began, with the same excellent quartette. Miss Aileen Doyle deserves praise for her efficient service as accompanist.

UNIVERSITY OF DUBLIN CHORAL SOCIETY.

A special general meeting of this Society was held in the Society's rooms, 4 T.C.D., on Friday, 18th inst., Rev. J. H. Lawlor, D.D., in the chair.

The statement of accounts for the previous session was received and adopted, and the following were appointed a Committee for the duration of the war:—Hon. Secretary, J. G. Bird, R.A.; Hon. Treasurer, H. P. Mayne, B.A.; Hon. Librarian and Registrar, W. Warnock; T. H. Maxwell, LL.D., T. F. Figgis, LL.D., and K. M. Greer.

It was resolved:—"That this Society desires to record its pride in, and admiration for, the conduct of two of its members—Mr. A. J. Crichton and Mr. M. J. Figgis (Hon. Librarian)—who have fallen in the service of their country, and regret at the loss this Society has thereby sustained."

A resolution of regret for the deaths of Right Hon. Lord Ardilaun, Vice-President; Mr. G. R. Price, K.C., Vice-President; Dr. Benjamin Williamson, S.F.T.C.D.; Miss Craig, and Mrs. Stokes was also passed.

A resolution of appreciation of the patriotic spirit of the following members now on active service was also adopted:—H. M. Fitzgibbon, H. Flewett (ex-Treasurer), Sir S. Cochrane, and R. Grove White (ex-Secretary).

A vote of thanks to the Conductor for his valued services was also unanimously adopted.

In order to maintain the musical efficiency of the orchestra and chorus and, so far as possible, to keep the Society in good working order, the practices are being continued. Mozart's C Minor Mass being at present studied, but it is not proposed to give concerts until the present abnormal times have passed by.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

SATURDAY NIGHT'S LISTS.

The following casualty in the Australian Imperial Force with the Mediterranean Expeditionary Force is reported:—

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED MISSING, NOW REPORTED DIED.

VASEY, Lieut. F., 9th Australian Army Service Corps.

FRANCE.

The following casualty in the Canadian Contingent in the Expeditionary Force is reported:—

OFFICER WOUNDED.

NELSON, Maj. G. W., 14th Canadian Infantry Batt.

The following casualties in the Expeditionary Force are reported from General Headquarters:—

OFFICERS KILLED.

GREENHILL, Lieut. T. W., 4th (Royal Irish) Dragoon Guards.

MARSH, Second Lieut. H. H., 10th Welsh Regt.

OFFICERS WOUNDED.

BAIRD, Lieut. D., Royal Engineers.
BRISCO, Second Lieut. R. H., Royal Engineers.
CIRKS, Lieut. J., Royal Engineers.
CLINCH, Second Lieut. W. M., Royal Engineers.
ELY, Second Lieut. D. H. J., 14th Durham L.I.
HITCH, Lieut. V., 4th Bedfordshire Regiment.
JOLLY, Second Lieut. T. B., 3rd East Surrey Regt.
JOURDAIN, Lieut. R. O., 23rd Royal Fusiliers.
LEE-EVANS, Lieut. G., 21st Manchester Regt.
MALLETT, Second Lieut. K. L., 6th Bedfordshire Regt.
NICKELS, Lieut. R. N., Royal Field Artillery.
SOUTHERN, Lieut. J., Northumberland Fus.
TAYLOR, Second Lieut. C. R., 10th King's (Liverpool Regiment).
TOLLEMACHE, Second Lieut. C. H., 11th Hampshire Regt.
UPTON, Second Lieut. T. H., Royal Engineers.

The following casualties in the Expeditionary Force are also reported:—

OFFICERS WOUNDED.

SAUNDERS, Sec. Lieut. S. G., 15th Middlesex Regt.
WEST, Sec. Lieut. G. A., 14th Welsh Regt.

EAST AFRICA.

The following casualty is reported from East Africa:—

OFFICER WOUNDED.

WALE, Lieut. A. A., 2nd Loyal North Lancashire Regt.

OTHER RANKS.

FRANCE.

FEBRUARY 12th.

IRISH REGIMENTS ONLY.

DIED OF WOUNDS.

IRISH GUARDS, 1st BATTALION.
Jordan, 7299, Pte. N., McCrory, 5927, Pte. T.

WOUNDED.

4th (ROYAL IRISH) DRAGOON GUARDS.
Bailey, 8026, Pte. R.

5th (ROYAL IRISH) LANCERS.
Squire, 4870, Pte. W.

VARIOUS DATES.

KILLED.

ROYAL MUNSTER FUSILIERS, 7th BATTALION.
Smith, 2011, Pte. (corrected from previously reported wounded and missing, now reported killed).

ROYAL MUNSTER FUSILIERS, 6th BATTALION.
Bradley, 15136, Pte. J. Delaney, 949, Pte. C. J. Thompson, 703, Pte. E. T., Tobitt, 5185, Pte. D.

ROYAL MUNSTER FUSILIERS, 7th BATTALION.
Miller, 1780, Lce.-Corpl. E.

ROYAL MUNSTER FUSILIERS, 6th BATTALION.
Casey, 849, Lce.-Corpl. M., McLean, 1050, Pte. D.

DIED.

ROYAL MUNSTER FUSILIERS, 1st BATTALION.
Afield, 6/5781, Pte. A.

CORRECTION.

PREVIOUSLY ERRONEOUSLY REPORTED

ROYAL MUNSTER FUSILIERS, 1st BATTALION.
Condon, 9746, Pte. T.

THE BALKANS.

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED MISSING, NOW REPORTED DIED.

ROYAL IRISH FUSILIERS, 5th BATTALION.
Hill, 22373, Pte. A.

OVERSEAS.

The following casualties are reported from Tyrone, under various dates:—

DIED.

ROYAL DUBLIN FUSILIERS, 7th BATTALION.
McCormack, 18966, Pte. R.

SOLICITOR KILLED AT THE FRONT.

News was received in Nottingham on Saturday of the death in action of a well-known local solicitor—Captain George Percy Goodall, of the Sherwood Foresters. He had accomplished much useful work as Secretary of the Nottingham Chamber of Commerce, and held the office of magistrates' clerk at Bingham Petty Sessional Division. He was 37 years of age.

UNIVERSITY SPORTSMAN KILLED.

The sad intelligence was received at his home in West Bromwich on Saturday that Lieutenant H. C. Wilkes, of the 5th Lancashire Fusiliers, had been killed in France. He was only 25 years old, and will be remembered for his phenomenal sporting successes at Cambridge University, where he took his B.A. degree. He was captain of the Varsity Soccer eleven, and also played against Oxford at Queen's Club. He won the Varsity tennis championship in 1913. He played football for the Corinthians and for West Bromwich Albion, and was an amateur international and inter-league centre forward. At cricket he several times assisted the Worcestershire County eleven, and was a county player for Staffordshire at hockey and tennis. Lieutenant Roche enlisted in the Lincolnshire Regiment as a private in October, 1914, but subsequently obtained his commission, and had been in France a few months.

FROM THE LONDON GAZETTE.

WAR OFFICE, Feb. 18, 1916.

REGULAR FORCES.

The undermentioned Warrant and Non-Commissioned Officers to be Second Lieutenants for service in the Field:—

CAVALRY.

2nd Dragoons (Royal Scots Greys)—Sergeant-Major R. Currie.

ROYAL REGIMENT OF ARTILLERY.

Royal Horse and Royal Field Artillery—Battery Sergeant-Major P. S. Smith, Battery Sergeant-Major E. W. Call, Sergeant R. J. Campbell, Corporal of Horse E. Fairbother, from 2nd Life Guards; Battery Quartermaster-Sergeant A. Haynes, Squadron Sergeant-Major W. Wright, from 6th Dragoon Guards (Carabiniers); Battery Sergeant-Major T. Hogan, Battery Sergeant-Major W. T. McGuinness, Battery Quartermaster-Sergeant W. H. Norman, Battery Quartermaster-Sergeant F. E. Mitchell, Sergeant M. T. B. Weston, Sergeant J. Trodgill, Sergeant J. V. Bryant, Corporal K. H. Brown.

Royal Garrison Artillery—Battery Sergeant-Major J. Spackman, Corporal A. Walsh.

INFANTRY.

Royal Scots (Lothian Regiment)—Quartermaster-Sergeant A. McGregor Wilson, from the Black Watch (Royal Highlanders).

Northumberland Fusiliers—Company Sergeant-Major A. G. Edwards, from the Duke of Edinburgh's (Wiltshire Regiment).

King's (Liverpool Regiment)—Acting Sergeant-Major J. Walsh.

Lincolnshire Regiment—Company Sergeant-Major Sydney Clarke; Company Sergeant-Major J. B. Healey.

Leicestershire Regiment—Quartermaster-Sergeant F. Oliver, from 6th Dragoon Guards (Carabiniers); Sergeant W. A. Evans, from Indian Unattached List (Corps of Military Staff Clerks).

Royal Scots Fusiliers—Company Quartermaster-Sergeant J. Tinley, from the Black Watch (Royal Highlanders).

Hampshire Regiment—Sergeant-Major G. Parker, from the Prince of Wales's (North Staffordshire Regiment).

South Staffordshire Regiment—Sergeant-Major J. Saape, Quartermaster-Sergeant I. Woiverson, Company Quartermaster-Sergeant F. P. Morgan.

Welsh Regiment—Company Quartermaster-Sergeant A. W. Taylor, from Army Cyclists Corps; Company Quartermaster-Sergeant S. H. Jackson Lane, from Coldstream Guards.

Essex Regiment—Sergeant J. R. Parke, from Grenadier Guards; and ceased for duty with the New Zealand forces.

Royal North Lancashire Regiment—Sergeant G. F. Smith, from the Hampshire Regiment; Sergeant R. S. Hibbard, from 3rd (King's Own) Hussars.

Middlesex Regiment—Company Sergeant-Major W. O'Meara.

York and Lancaster Regiment—Sergeant A. W. Lamont, from Scots Guards.

Durham Light Infantry—Sergeant H. J. Lois, from 7th (Princess Royal's) Dragoon Guards.

CORPS OF ROYAL ENGINEERS.

The undermentioned non-commissioned officers to be temporary Second Lieutenants—Sapper S. Gill, Corporal A. N. Gates, Sergeant W. G. Grove, from 2nd Regiment, King Edward's Horse; Lance-Sergeant P. H. McDonall, from 2nd Regiment, King Edward's Horse; Lance-Corporal L. R. Lanoque, from 2nd Regiment, King Edward's Horse.

MEMORANDA.

The undermentioned to be temporary Second Lieutenants—Sapper T. H. Birdsall, from Royal Engineers (Corporal Motor Cyclist) B. E. Glover, from Royal Engineers; Private W. W. Scott-Davidson, from the Army Service Corps; Private A. S. Elliottson, from Coldstream Guards.

STEAMER ASHORE.

Lloyd's report that the Comris Castle is ashore at Monbaan. Assistance was rendered during Thursday night. Passengers landed.

WHAT SHILLINGS

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Glass, &
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Saturdays Closed at 1 p.
These offices have been removed to 5
A PROTESTANT Worker Housekeeper
HOUSEKEEPER (Protestant), Middle
HOUSEKEEPER (Protestant), Middle
LADY Housekeeper, Middle-aged, Ch
MIDDLE-AGED Protestant Housekeeper
PROTESTANT Housekeeper, Middle-
RESPECTABLE young girl wishes
YOUNG Girl wishes situation in
COOK, DAIRYMAID, DISH
A GOOD, young Protestant Hou
EXPERIENCED Housekeeper, Mid
HOUSEMAID, second girl, Protes
HOUSEMAID, Protestant, Middle
HOUSEMAID, Protestant, Middle
HOUSEMAID, Protestant, dinner
HOUSEMAID, Protestant, dinner
HOUSEMAID, Protestant, dinner